

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 2607.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1877.

PRICE
THREEPENCE
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

GOVERNMENT GRANT of 1,000*l*.—A Meeting of the GOVERNMENT GRANT COMMITTEE will be held on **FEBRUARY, 1878.** It is requested that Applications to be considered at that Meeting be forwarded to the SECRETARIES of the Royal Society before the 31st of DECEMBER, 1877.

GOVERNMENT FUND of 4,000*l*. for the PROMOTION of SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.—A Meeting of the GOVERNMENT FUND COMMITTEE will be held in FEBRUARY, 1878. It is requested that Applications to be considered at that Meeting be forwarded to the SECRETARIES of the Royal Society before the 31st of DECEMBER, 1877.

THE LATE JOHN GIBSON, R.A.—A Plaster of the bust of JOHN GIBSON, R.A., by the ZEPHYRUS was exhibited by the late John Gibson, at the Royal Academy in the year 1816, and has subsequently been in the possession of Mr. Bailey and Dr. Barry. A Cast of the same subject is now in the custody of Messrs. Stott, of Liverpool, and is alleged to be the identical Work exhibited by Gibson. Any one having any knowledge to the contrary, or who may be aware of the existence of any other Copy of the Work in question, would confer a favour by communicating such information to ALFRED WATERHOUSE, 20, New Cavendish-street, London, W.

SCHOOL of ART, DURHAM.—There will be a VACANCY in the MASTERSHIP of the above School after DECEMBER 31st. The duties of the new Master will commence on MONDAY, January 7th, 1878. He must possess the requisite Certificates from South Kensington. The salary is 100*l* per annum, and other Teaching with the School will be given in full as much more.—Applications, with testimonials, must be sent to Rev. W. GREENWELL, 27, North Bailey, Durham, before NOVEMBER 1st.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION, 5, Pall Mall East.—THE ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY is NOW OPEN, from Nine till Dusk. Admission, 3*s*. Also, Monday and Saturday Evenings, 6*d*.—Closes November 15th. H. BADEN FRITCHARD, Hon. Sec.

EXHIBITION of CABINET PICTURES in OIL, DUDLEY GALLERY, Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly. Notice to Artists.—The Day for RECEIVING PICTURES for the Eleventh Exhibition will be MONDAY, the 5th November next, between 10 A.M. and 10 P.M. Regulations may be had of the Secretary, at the Gallery.

NOTICE to ARTISTS.—FINE-ART SOCIETY'S AUTUMN EXHIBITION of WATER COLOURS.—INTERESTING EXHIBITIONS are reminded that the LATEST DATE for RECEIVING WORKS is the 16th instant.—145, New Bond-street.

CRYSTAL PALACE PICTURE GALLERY.—OPEN all the YEAR ROUND for the RECEPTION and SALE of PICTURES, by the British and Foreign Schools.—For particulars apply to Mr. C. W. WASS.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—SATURDAY CONCERT and Afternoon Promenade THIS DAY. The Programme will include

Overture, "Anacreon,"—Cherubini.
"Foppa,"—London.
Concerto for Violin and Orchestra in G.—Max Bruch.
Symphony in B flat.—Haydn.
Overture, "Calm Sea and Prosperous Voyage,"—Mendelssohn.
Herr Max Bruch has kindly consented to conduct his own works.
Vocalists, Madame Nover (her first appearance at the Crystal Palace), Mr. Barton McGuckin. Solo Violin, Señor Sarante (first appearance at the Crystal Palace of this eminent Spanish Violinist).
Conductor, Mr. AUGUST MANN.

Transferable Stalls for the Twenty-Four Concerts, Two Guineas; Numbered Stalls for a Single Concert in Area or Gallery, Half-a-Crown; Unnumbered Seats in Area or Gallery, One Shilling; all exclusive of Admission to the Palace. Admission to Palace, Half-a-Crown, or by Season Ticket.

CRYSTAL PALACE COMPANY'S SCHOOL of ART, SCIENCE, and LITERATURE.—18th Session, 1877-78.—LADIES' DIVISION.—THE NEXT SESSION OPENS on MONDAY, October 15th.

Professors and Teachers.—Mr. E. A. Goodall, Mr. Frederick Smallfield, Mr. W. K. Shenton, Mr. George Harris, M.A. Mandron, M.A., Mr. Heinemann, Mr. Charles Professor Volpe, Dr. G. G. Zerr, F.R.Hist.S., Mr. A. Sonnenschein, Mr. Henry N. Read, M.A., Mr. H. Foxwell, M.A., Mr. M. Master, M.A., Rev. Henry White, M.A., Herr Ernst Fager, Sir Julius Benedict, Mr. E. Froust, B.A., Miss M. E. von Glehn, I. F. Bridge, Mus. Doc., John Stainer, Mus. Doc., Madame St. Germaine, Signor Rizzelli, Miss Mary Hooper, M. Louis d'Éville, Mrs. George Gilbert, Mr. G. A. Rogers, and other Lecturers on Special Subjects.

Scholarships in Art, Modern Languages, &c., and Music.
Prospectus on application to the undersigned, in the Office of the School, in the Library, Brompton Court, Crystal Palace, Sydenham.
By Order of the Committee,
F. K. J. SHENTON, Sup. Literary Department.

UNIVERSITY EDUCATION.—The Syndicate appointed by Grace of the Senate of the University of Cambridge to organize and superintend Courses of Lectures and Classes will, during the next Session of the CRYSTAL PALACE SCHOOL of ART, SCIENCE, and LITERATURE, conduct COURSES on the under-mentioned Subjects in the LADIES' DIVISION of the School:—

Facts and Principles of Chemical Science.—THURSDAYS, 2.30 P.M.
By Henry N. Read, M.A., St. John's Coll., Cambridge.
Political Economy.—TUESDAYS, 11.30 A.M. By Herbert S. Foxwell, M.A., Fellow of St. John's Coll., Cambridge.

Examinations will be held by Examiners appointed by the Syndicate, and Certificates will be granted.
The Fee for 12 Lectures and Classes is 2*l*. 2*s*.; for 19 Lectures only, 1*l* 6*s*. (See Regulations).
The Courses in the General History (Dr. G. G. Zerr, F.R.S.L., F.R.Hist.S.) and English Literature (Rev. Henry White, M.A.) by the appointed Teachers of the School, will be conducted on the same method and for the same fee.

Full particulars on application to the undersigned, in the Office of the School, in the Library, Brompton Court, Crystal Palace.
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Chemistry.—H. E. Armstrong, Ph.D., F.R.S.
Zoology.—Norman Moore, M.D., Lecturer on Comparative Anatomy to the Hospital.
Physics.—W. Graham, M.A., Demonstrator of Natural Philosophy.
Fee (to others than students of the Hospital) for the whole Course, including Chemicals, Ten Guineas.
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KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—EVENING CLASS DEPARTMENT.

WINTER SESSION, 1877-78.
Chemistry, at 7 P.M.—Monday, October 8th; Thursday, October 11th.—Mr. W. N. Hartley.
Analytical Chemistry, from 7 till 9 P.M.—Tuesday, October 9th.—Mr. W. N. Hartley.
Fee for the Course of Lectures, 1*l*. 11*s*. 6*d*.; for the Laboratory, 2*s*. 2*d*. The Session terminates in March.

QUEEN'S COLLEGES, IRELAND.

THE PROFESSORSHIP of ANATOMY and PHYSIOLOGY in the QUEEN'S COLLEGE, GALWAY, being now VACANT, Candidates for that Office are requested to forward their Testimonials to the Under-Secretary, Dublin Castle, on or before MONDAY, the 22nd inst., in order that the same may be submitted to his Grace the Lord Lieutenant.
The Candidate who may be selected for the above Professorship will have to enter upon his duties at once.
Dublin Castle, 5th October, 1877.

TRAINING COLLEGE for TEACHERS in HIGH SCHOOLS for GIRLS.—A PRINCIPAL LADY is REQUIRED for the Training College, immediately to be established by the Teachers' Training and Registration Society. Fixed Salary, 300*l*. a year, together with Capitation Fees, the Maximum being 300*l*. Candidates are requested to send in testimonials and Forms of Application on or before OCTOBER 15th.—For further information and Forms of Application apply to the Secretary, Miss Broun, 112, Brompton-road, S.W.

LADIES' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION,

in CONNECTION with UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—Prof. MORLEY'S EVENING CLASS of ENGLISH LANGUAGE OPENS on TUESDAY, October 16th, at 6. The Session for DAY CLASSES BEGINS on MONDAY, October 22nd.—Prospectus in the Office at the College, or of J. E. MYERS, 27, Oxford-square, W.

CLIFTON HIGH SCHOOL for GIRLS.—The Council intend to appoint, early in November, THREE ASSISTANT-MISTRESSES, One at a Salary of 150*l*. per annum, who must have a knowledge of Mathematics, and Two at Salaries of 120*l*. per annum each.—Applications, with testimonials, to be made to the Head Mistress, Miss Woods, 50, Seymour-street, Portman-square, before the 31st of OCTOBER.—THE SCHOOL will open on THURSDAY, January 24th, 1878.

THE HEAD MASTERSHIP of the TAUNTON COLLEGE SCHOOL

will become VACANT on the 31st of DECEMBER NEXT.
Candidates must be Members of the Church of England, and Graduates of one of the Universities in the United Kingdom, and in Priest's Orders at or within Three Months after Appointment.
The Emoluments are—Capitation Fees of 1*l*. for each Boarder, and 1*l*. for each Day Boy, together with 250*l*. a year, and a Residence, free of Rates and Taxes.

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Applications must state whether the Applicant is Married or Unmarried, his Age, and other particulars, and must be sent, with Testimonials, in a Sealed Envelope, on or before the 31st of OCTOBER NEXT, addressed to the Nominators, care of the Secretary of the Taunton College School Company, Limited, Mr. T. J. Prier, 3, Hammett-street, Taunton, of whom further particulars can be obtained.

PREPARATORY DAY SCHOOL.

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16, Walton-place, Hans-place, S.W.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1877.

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LITERATURE

Under the Balkans. By R. Jasper More. (Kegan Paul & Co.)

MR. JASPER MORE, who spent a short time in Bulgaria last autumn, has written an interesting and perfectly fair account of the result of active inquiries and of much that he saw as a passive observer in and around Philippopolis. It cannot be said that he adds much to what was already known on the subject of the “atrocities.” He shows, however, more clearly than other writers on the same subject have done that before the massacres began there was a species of panic on both sides; or perhaps it would be nearer the truth to say that there was genuine panic among the Bulgarians, a feeling of uneasiness and alarm among the Turks. This seems the more strange, inasmuch as the first movers in the horrible business were undoubtedly the Bulgarians, pushed into action by the Bulgarian insurrectionary committees sitting on the safe side of the Danube at Bucharest. The Bulgarian conspiracy, however, had been freely spoken of both in the Roumanian newspapers, which did not wish it success, and in the Russian newspapers, which over-estimated its importance, and thought it could not but succeed; and in many parts of Bulgaria where the Christians are greatly in the majority, the Turkish villagers may well have regarded their position as dangerous. On the whole, the insurrection of the Bulgarians against their Turkish masters was like a rising of sparrows against hawks. Nowhere did the insurgents show courage. In some places they trembled before striking; in others they trembled and did not strike at all. In one seemingly typical case cited by Mr. More a number of armed Bulgarians, hesitating whether to attack or to let themselves be attacked by Bashi-Bazouks, retired into a house, of which they looped the outer walls. They then put aside their arms, and the Bashi-Bazouks on arriving fired through the very loopholes the Bulgarians had themselves made.

There is still one important point in the Bulgarian question which has as yet scarcely been touched upon by any English author, and which even the German Kanitz, in his full and exact account of Bulgaria, fails to elucidate. The massacres of May, 1876, are known to have been committed by Tartars and Circassians. Under what circumstances

was this foreign element introduced into Bulgaria, and with what object? The Turks have been much praised by English writers for giving hospitality to the Tartars of the Crimea and to the Circassians of the Caucasus when these Mohammedan populations had, in fact, been made to feel their position under the Russian Government intolerable. The Christian populations of European Turkey have, on the other hand, always held that these half-savage hordes were introduced into Bulgaria simply to reinforce the Mussulman element in Europe, and, as a Servian writer has put it, “to raise a barrier on the one side between the Porte and the rayahs, on the other between the rayahs and Servia and Roumania.”

In the year 1860, Mr. Philip Christitch, now Servian agent at Constantinople, at that time Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Servian Cabinet, wrote a despatch on this very subject, in which the following passages occur: “Tartars have been established in Bulgarian villages, lodged in Bulgarian houses, and are actually living more or less at the expense of the Bulgarians. The immigration of this foreign element has spread disquiet and fear among the Bulgarians, not only in the localities where the Tartars are established, but even in the neighbourhood of our frontier. . . . The Servian Government has the effect of this colonization before its eyes. It foresees and already feels its inevitable consequences, and it calls the attention of the Porte to the subject in the interest of the Empire.”

It would be interesting, moreover, for historical reasons, to receive some authentic information about the massacres which took place in Northern Bulgaria immediately after the Servian declaration of war. Gen. Tcherniaieff entered Bulgarian territory accompanied by an agent of the “Slavonic Benevolent Committee,” who benevolently proposed to raise the Bulgarians against the Turks, and who had brought with him to Servia a certain sum of money for the purchase of arms. Tcherniaieff and this Russian officer (who, under the name of Kireieff, will be recognized as the hero of an episode narrated by Mr. Kinglake in the preface to his new edition of the ‘History of the Crimean War’) carried with them proclamations and muskets for distribution in the Bulgarian villages. But the proclamations awakened no enthusiasm, the muskets were for the most part declined without thanks, and the attempt to rouse the timid inhabitants, served only as a pretext for fresh massacres on the part of the Turkish irregular troops. Of these massacres north of the Balkans no formal account has ever been published; and what is known on the subject seems to have been derived either from Gen. Tcherniaieff himself or from officers serving under him.

Mr. More does not confine himself exclusively to narratives of “atrocities,” though these form the greater portion of his volume. He gives some interesting particulars about Robert College and the American missionaries, and presents some striking pictures of Bulgarian religious ceremonies.—

“Panagurishte, on All Souls’ Day, presented a singular spectacle. From very early morning, throughout the day, till night, streams of women were wending their way to or from the different cemeteries. Each as she went carried in her hands a dish of boiled corn, a basket containing

cakes of bread, butter, some fruit, a dish of honey, a bottle or some other vessel containing wine, a few wax tapers, a small flask of oil, a bunch of flowers, and some burning charcoal and incense in a small clay censer. When they had arrived at one of the battered, roofless churches, the dishes of boiled corn brought by each of the women were ranged along the foot of the altar, and a lighted taper being stuck into the corn, the respective owners stood in front of the altar, whilst the priest, who was behind a screen, with his back to the women, blessed the offering. As this was done, the women individually proceeded to the little cemetery behind the church, carrying with them the rest of the articles they had brought. When they had arrived at the grave of a relative, each knelt down, and after crossing herself, systematically placed upon the grave the loaf, or cake of bread, the honey, the cup of wine, the fruit, and the flowers, lighting at the same time as many tapers as there are occupants of the grave. These tapers were then stuck upright in the earth. A little lamp having been taken out of the small box-like lantern fixed at the head of each grave, some oil from the flask was poured into it, and the lamp lit and replaced. All these preparations having been most carefully and methodically completed, the women commenced the wailing by uttering a mournful, plaintive, continuous cry, at the same time rocking the body to and fro, wringing the hands, and shedding genuine tears. Over some of the graves were several members of the family, who would all wail together; and the combined effect of some hundreds of little knots of women simultaneously ejaculating a tremulous, grief-stricken dirge, was doleful and depressing in the extreme. As each mourner discontinued the wailing, which in some cases lasted half an hour or more, she arose, poured the unconsumed oil and the wine upon, and scattered the ashes from the censer over, the grave, after which she departed, carrying the corn and bread with her, for subsequent charitable distribution.”

A funeral procession, described by Mr. More, was remarkable in the first place for a yoke of white oxen, drawing a waggon with wicker sides, on which the coffin—that of a woman—was placed, feet foremost.—

“On the front of the waggon rode the priest, carrying in his hands a sacristy made of clay; and behind sat one of the relatives. It was followed by a small crowd of about twenty or thirty mourners, mostly women, wearing gowns of coarse homespun cloth, coloured aprons, and handkerchiefs on their heads, being the usual costume of the country. Arriving at the ruins of the battered and destroyed church of St. George, the procession stopped, and the mourners crossed themselves, while the priest scattered incense on all sides. The corpse, which was wrapped in a coloured blanket, the face only being exposed, was carried into the church, placed before the altar, and laid feet eastwards in the blanket, the head being supported by a pillow. The body was clad in gold-braided bridal costume, a handkerchief on the head, shoes and stockings on the feet, and a gold chain around the neck. On the breast was placed a lighted triple-branched wax taper, and bunches of flowers were also laid on the breast and placed in the hand. A small oil lamp was burning near the head. A loaf of bread on a plate, a pan of boiled wheat, and a dish of honey were set near the corpse. The mourners and congregation, to the number of about fifty, mostly women, each held a lighted taper, as did also the two officiating priests and the clerks.”

But the brightest of Mr. More’s descriptions is, as it should be, that of a wedding. The young couple stood on a small bit of carpet laid on the red rough plastered floor.—

“Immediately behind the group was stationed the godmother, holding in each hand a lighted candle above the heads of the happy pair. In the centre of the floor was placed a low stool covered by a handkerchief, on which were placed the religious books used by the priest, a clay sacristy,

a plate of sweets, a cup of wine, and two wreaths of evergreen. In front of this stool, and opposite the couple, stood the officiating priest, who had only recently been liberated from prison, where he had been confined several months on suspicion of insurrectionary proclivities. The bride and bridegroom having exchanged rings, the priest commenced reading in ancient Slavic, and in a monotonous drawl, portions of the Gospel applicable to the ceremony. He then took up the sacristy, and waved it in front of each three times, made the sign of the cross three times before them, let them kiss the back of his hand three times, and placed a wreath on the heads of each, again making the sign of the cross after doing so, reading meanwhile portions of the marriage service. The priest then let them sip from the cup of wine, handed each a sweet, and giving them a short admonitory address, finally blessed them. The parents and godfather and godmother then came forward and kissed the wreaths on the heads of the couple; after which bride, bridegroom, and groomsmen, still holding the corners of the coloured handkerchiefs, marched three times round the little stool, the priest leading, but pausing, on the completion of each revolution, to kiss the book of the Gospels held to their lips by the priest. At the end of the third round they all marched out of the house, but in a few moments the bride and bridegroom reappeared on the scene, securely bound together with a cord. They were speedily released, however, and the ceremony was complete. Gifts were then made to the couple, and the parents of the bride gave a present of homespun linen to the godfather and godmother, whilst outside the house stood horses laden with the clothing and linen of the bride. Sweets, jelly, and water were then handed round by the bridesmaids to the assembled guests, and the married couple came to receive the congratulations of those present; but beyond a blushing smile, no other response, not even a whisper, was made by the bride; for, in accordance with the custom of the country, for the space of three days she is prohibited to speak to any other person than her husband.

In his account of the Bulgarian church service, which is as nearly as possible identical with the church service of Russia, Mr. More suggests, with some *naïveté*, that the effect of the singing would be improved by the addition of female voices to the choir. In a musical point of view, it would be a further advantage if the singing were accompanied and supported by an organ. But the Greek Church tolerates neither organs nor female voices in connexion with its offices. The Emperor Nicholas once made an attempt to get organs introduced into the churches of St. Petersburg and Moscow; but the late Philarete, Metropolitan of Moscow, would not hear of the innovation, and made such strong representations on the subject that the Imperial project was quickly abandoned. Still more strongly would the venerable Philarete have objected to the idea of improving choirs by mixing female with male voices. The presence of women side by side with priests and deacons on the steps of the altar would be a grave scandal; nor can a woman enter the sanctuary behind the image-bearing screen without desecrating the building. The Bulgarian church service is recited and chanted in the ancient Slavonian, which is also the liturgical language of the Russians and Servians. Mr. More points out that the Bulgarians do not understand this sacred dialect; and he might have added that the Bulgarians, though the Russians claim them as brethren by ethnology, understand neither the Church Slavonian of the tenth century nor modern Russian. On the other

hand, numbers of Bulgarians are well acquainted with the Turkish language, by which the Bulgarian language has been largely influenced, both in its construction and in its vocabulary. Indeed, the correspondent of a Russian newspaper, writing from General Radetzky's encampment in the Shipka Pass, mentioned the other day that General Stoletoff, the Russian commander of the Bulgarian Legion, not knowing the Bulgarian language, and finding that he could not make himself intelligible to the Bulgarians in Russian, addressed them habitually in Turkish.

Natural Law: an Essay in Ethics. By Edith Simcox. (Trübner & Co.)

THIS is a work which must call forth somewhat mixed feelings. It is impossible not to admire and sympathize with the lofty morality which it enforces, and the very exalted and comprehensive significance which it assigns to duty. The sternest preacher of righteousness to the individual and the race has never called upon both to be ready for greater acts of self-sacrifice than are imposed upon man in all his varied relations by the writer of this volume. It seems inspired by the same spirit which we find in the ejaculatory utterances of Tenebrisdrück's transcendental morality in 'Sartor Resartus,' or in the eloquent outbursts of Fichte in 'The Vocation of the Scholar.' The author, however, to whom we should say Miss Simcox has been most deeply indebted, and from whom she has learned most, is George Eliot. There is the same stoicism, tinged occasionally by the same hues of tragic sadness, which are prominent in our greatest living novelist; the same faith in the dignity and worth of human life, and in the high ideals which lie before the race, and yet the same occasional tendency to despair in presence of a dark fate. When, however, we try to find the roots from which the highest moral results accepted have sprung, the foundations on which the superstructure of morality and religion (in the peculiar but not ignoble sense in which that term is used by Miss Simcox) has been erected, we fail to discover them. These outgrowths, like everything else in nature and life, are, indeed, alleged to spring from the same common ground, but to many it will seem that in making morality naturalistic its distinctive character is eliminated. Miss Simcox has provided against this objection by the definition of law with which she starts, and which is her only foundation. Law is declared to be merely "a statement of constant relations posited by the nature of things." The law proclaimed by conscience, which has moral good as its goal, depends upon human feelings of obligation, but does not derive its force and sanctions from feeling. It—

"formulates necessities which owe at least half their being to external influences, and these natural conditions of all the true provisions of natural law subsist independently of the human sensibilities which they help to keep alive. It is because the broad conditions of life and association are the same for every one, everywhere and always, that we count every one as subject to the same moral law."

This may be accepted as so far an accurate description of ethical phenomena, such as we find them to be in actual existence and exercise, but it gives no account of what is special

and peculiar in them. They are there before us, and we tabulate, weigh, and measure them; but we cannot otherwise explain them. It will be seen at once by all who know the works of Mr. Lewes that we have here a procedure in essential respects in harmony with that which he commends as the only possible method of philosophizing. Indeed, Miss Simcox says distinctly elsewhere (p. 240) that the human intellect is incapable of formulating or understanding any other reason *why* a thing is thus or thus, than "a full, true, and particular account of *how* it is, in itself and in relation to all the other things that are." And just as we find Mr. Lewes speak of the world and the system of things which constitutes what we call reality as being still the same, though all our theories about them are nought, so is Miss Simcox contented to accept things as they are, without requiring any further explanation of them than they give of themselves by the mere fact of being there. The universe is an ultimate fact; but when we have once "perceived or postulated" this fact, we shall find everything in it equally explicable, in the sense that we can observe its phenomena and classify their relations. Obviously, in this disposition, we may accept the facts and phenomena of consciousness and conscience, as we do those of life and nature, as simply there, and as having no explanation beyond themselves accessible to us. We need only, then, to observe and classify; but we do not discard the high moral and spiritual results, of which we have the record before us,—we merely write their natural history.

There is an advantage in this simple view of the universe. It avoids the great blunder that has often been committed in former days by the opponents of the metaphysical and theological methods, who denied the existence of the "rights" they could not account for, and the ideals that were beyond their comprehension. On the other hand, of course it is liable to the charge of accepting as naturalistic growths the results, in religion and morality, which are apparently associated in the relation of cause and effect with spiritualism and supernaturalism. In order that the law of conscience and of duty may be received as the issue of the sum of precedent mechanical forces converging upon the point at which it first originated, and in order to explain the course of its development since, we must be able to show how the phenomena mistaken for supernatural and spiritual could have also sprung out of mechanical conditions—a somewhat formidable task. There is room for nothing but mechanical forces and conditions. It may be claimed that we should extend the meaning of the term, just as Prof. Tyndall extended the meaning of the word "matter"; but, however far we do that, the forces must still be mechanical, as they are correlations determined by the nature of things, and the seemingly active or spontaneous elements in them are only higher or more complex passivities.

It is scarcely necessary to add that a theory or a view of life and nature which accepts this universal determinism is distinctly non-theological. It is the main characteristic of this work that, while it retains the highest results in morality and religion of the theological method, it cuts off the sources from

which it has been hitherto supposed these have come. But it can only do this imperfectly. The mere affirmation that the order or system of nature, including not merely the range of external but all internal phenomena and all the interrelations of influences in the social medium, is what it is, carries us but a little way. In abandoning the postulates of Theism the Not-self must be really exalted into a divinity; and all that is required to account for the tendencies in the universe towards righteousness—all therefore that testifies to the existence of moral and spiritual forces that work out into noble ends—is attributed to the Not-self. This is an easy way to get over difficulties: it is not so clear that it is a philosophical way.

Miss Simcox is not arrogant in her pretensions. All that she claims to have done in this book is "to have given a ground of common sense and plain reason to a few ethical commonplaces, which without such ground are open to suspicion as edifying prejudices." She only succeeds in doing this by putting aside the "prejudices," and alleging that there is no necessity why we should receive them in order to give force and validity to the "ethical commonplaces." No doubt Miss Simcox believes that the simple realism which she sets forth is higher than any view reached by employing the metaphysical or theological method. Theism, she tries to show is unfavourable to morality, or less favourable than her simple realism, by diminishing the sense of responsibility in leaving room for the idea that the Deity believed in may repair, interrupt, or prevent the otherwise inevitable evil that must follow from certain sequences of effects and causes. The knowledge of that sequence is thereby robbed of half its proper influence on the imagination. There is something to be said for this view; but suppose man rebels against this natural morality, and asserts his right to seek to frustrate the sequences of effects and causes in one particular case, his rebellion must be accepted as itself the result of these sequences. Thus a radical antinomy is introduced into the nature of things, which equally produces morality and immorality, so that it grows somewhat hopeless on naturalistic grounds to distinguish between the two.

We fail to see the warrant in such a system for that faith in "man's perfection" which is "the crowning flower towards which the urgent sap in life's great tree is pressing." Nor does it provide any rational motives for determining us to prefer the good of others to our own happiness, in which we are told consists man's high duty. Man's satisfaction in the pursuit of "ideal ends" is doubtless susceptible of analysis; and it may be possible at some remote time, when science has made further progress, to resolve it into the social and individual elements that have built it up; but it may well be questioned if that will ever be done, if we begin by eliminating from the elements with which we start all that conforms to, or corresponds with, the ideal ends at which we are supposed to aim.

Miss Simcox deserves cordial recognition for the excellent work she has done in vindication of naturalism, and especially for the high nobility of her ethical purpose; but she has not grappled with the question from the ground of philosophy, and on closing her book—which we do with hearty respect for

the writer—we feel that she has not even made plain the possibility of any one really accepting and consistently applying such a theory as pervades her work.

L'Égypte à Petites Journées. Par Arthur Rhoné. (Paris, Leroux.)

To the numerous works which have recently appeared about Egypt has to be added one more by M. Rhoné. All things considered, it cannot be said to increase greatly the knowledge we already possessed of that country from other sources, and its chief merit is that it embodies a great deal of the "experiences" of Mariette-Bey, for, as the Bey possesses an unrivalled knowledge of ancient Egypt, valuable hints and notices will be found scattered through the pages amidst what is, notwithstanding a certain amount of tinselling, an otherwise ordinary and dull narrative of Egyptian travel. The fact is Egypt is too well known, and no amount of description of bazaars and their tenants, of boats and their crews, of fellaheen and their miseries, of almehs and their cancanes, can give novelty to a subject dealt with by "the forest of pencils" which has already described again and again the monotonous passage of the Nile. Egypt is not a country of adventure; it has been civilized into secure dullness, unlike the classical sites of Greece and Italy, with the bandit or pirate in the background. Hence, beyond the charmed circle of the monuments, Egyptian travel is subjective, and must be enlivened with the history of the Pharaohs, the scandals of the dynasty, the condition of the fellaheen, and some of the passing politics of the hour, and it becomes so difficult for a writer to avoid degenerating into the ordinary twaddle. The strong point of M. Rhoné's work is its archaeology, and its tendency to become, what is really wanted, a guide to, and hand-book of, the antiquities of the Nile. But this has been so often written that the merit is that of the last and best. Unfortunately M. Rhoné does not give evidence of a knowledge of any language except his own, and has not embodied the remarks of other than French Egyptologists; and when he speaks of the guide-books appealing to the "honorability" of the English not to mutilate the monuments, he must refer to an English "Lingua Franca" prevalent in the bazaars or amongst the donkey-boys of Cairo. It appears that the "honour" of mutilating ancient monuments is fairly distributed amongst the civilized races: the English have mutilated; the Americans, according to the author, thrashed the guardians, and destroyed the doors destined to defend the monuments; and the Prussians have done, in his eyes, what is worse—chiselled in large and defacing hieroglyphs and bad Egyptian grammar an inscription in honour of the German Emperor on the great Pyramid at Gizeh. Even Frenchmen have been seduced by bad example, and a society not learned has cut deep into the texts and wall of an old tomb a list of names to which some indignant *savant* has added in letters equally deep "a list of fools." But the habit is incorrigible: the old Egyptians scrawled and the Romans scratched their names in all directions long before the modern traveller, and future pilgrims of the way will no doubt continue to cut and mutilate till all old Egypt has been whittled away. The

Khedive, guided by the advice of Mariette-Bey, has done everything in his power to defend the monuments; but the invaders are too many, and the natives too venal, to protect their charge, and year by year more of old Egypt disappears chipped away by modern civilization; the list of fools will be considerably augmented as time goes on.

The author has availed himself of every opportunity to introduce into his volume his Egyptian learning, and a very fair knowledge of the mythology and history of the country may be obtained from it and the Appendix, which contains a *précis* of these two branches of Egyptian knowledge. There is also an interesting narrative of Mariette-Bey's discovery and excavations at the Serapeum, the troubles and intrigues of Abbas-Pasha against his operations, and the means by which the Bey ultimately secured the 525 objects found for the Louvre. Archaeology has, it appears, always to maintain an armed neutrality: the Ninevite bull in the British Museum had to float down the Tigris amidst a raking fire from raft and shore; and when Mariette had, in the opinion of the Arabs, "struck gold," he and M. Bonnefoi were forced to sustain a siege in the extemporized building called the Villa Mariette, and disperse by a well-sustained fire a body of Arabs, and send the burnouses flying into the desert. Our author, however, had no such sensational good fortune to enliven his pages. The archaeological descriptions are introduced for the most part as the opportunity arises, and some of the information will be new to most readers. The oldest of all pyramids, that of Saqqarah, is, it appears, not the tomb of a king, but the cemeteries of the older mummies of the bull Apis, and it may be that some of the others fulfilled the same office, for Belzoni discovered the remains of a bull in the chambers of the second pyramid. It might explain some difficulties about the absence of temples of the oldest period, could it be proved that the pyramid was after all a shrine and sepulchre. As to its being a bushel and a yard measure, that idea has long been exploded, and is not even alluded to by M. Rhoné, who has not indulged in any of the paradoxes which find such favour amongst some exalted imaginations in this country. The description of the Serapeum and its contents is one of the best portions of the work. There is, however, one statement which is partly incorrect, and that is that the British Museum at all interfered with the excavations of Mariette-Bey, or desired the Egyptian Government to confiscate his treasures. In reality the Museum took no step in the matter; and that Abbas-Pasha wished to send the 525 objects obtained to London is a new fact and, if true, the more remarkable, as it would have been quite unique, for the rigorous prohibition of the export of antiquities prevents any object leaving the country that cannot be carried out by travellers whose luggage is of the smallest possible amount. That the ruler of a country should wish to have a voice in the distribution of antique objects found in its soil is natural and fair, but the severe prohibition of the exportation of antiques can only finally tend to diminish the interest taken in that country. Had Turkey formerly acted on the policy adopted by modern Greece, the interest in Greek art would have been limited to the aristocratic and wealthy

traveller, and the knowledge of it, except from gems and coins, *caviare* to the scientific multitude. There are one or two points upon which there may be more than a doubt. One is the fact of Harpocrates placing his finger in his mouth; in Egyptian art he puts it on his chin: the other is the existence of "chickens" in "Pharaonic" times; there is doubtless a young bird just hatched seen on the monuments, but then is he not the young one of some kind of water-fowl? Chanticleer and his harem are neither seen nor mentioned in text, tomb, or papyrus. Memphis, it appears, has not entirely disappeared; the researches of Hekekyan Bey, indeed, demonstrated that, although in the days of Abdallatif the cupidity of the natives of Cairo was rapidly stripping it of all its monuments. The Nenuphar lily remains only in Lower Egypt, though depicted in the tombs of the Thebaid. The papyrus has long disappeared, and is to be sought for in Palestine and Syria, and no longer supplies the paper of the world. The old religion of the country has been trampled out, but here and there an Egyptian notion has passed into a Christian creed. The native is still an obstinate rebel against taxation, and has become again the child of Nature that he was before pyramids were built or tombs dug. We have, however, had already more than enough of him. Will no Impresario bring over a select company of the reis and his boatman, the sheik, the bastinado and its victim, and a troupe of almehs, with Pharaonic dances, to let the public see for once, and dismiss for ever, the *crambe repetita* of Egyptian travellers.

Christ Church Letters: a Volume of Mediæval Letters Relating to the Affairs of the Priory of Christ Church, Canterbury. Edited by J. B. Sheppard, M.R.C.S. (Camden Society.)

MEDIÆVAL letters in English are so rare that we are thankful to get all we can find of them preserved in print, even when they relate to matters of no historical moment whatever. The most trivial letter earlier than the year 1500 is of value as a specimen of the current language of the day, quite apart from any historical or literary excellences that it may have. The old letter-writers were not taught style and grammar—they did not try to write elegantly, as the book-makers did, but put their thoughts on paper very much as they spoke, and therefore from letters we gain a clearer notion of the spoken English than from any other source.

The volume Mr. Sheppard has edited is mainly important on this account; for the documents of which it is composed form no regular series, as is the case with the Paston Correspondence, but is mainly composed of odd letters, which business motives, accident, or the desire to possess memorials of royal or noble persons has saved from destruction. The priory of Christ Church possessed certain estates in Ireland—not very justly come by, it may be surmised; and the endeavour to get rents from them was a constant source of anxiety and must have entailed a troublesome and prolonged correspondence. Several of the papers here printed refer to this business; others relate to a gift of a hundred modii of wine which Louis VII. of France bestowed on the monks of Christ Church

yearly "for ever" on the occasion of his visiting the shrine of their archbishop as a pilgrim. This "wine of Saint Thomas" seems to have come irregularly, though means were taken to remind succeeding kings of France of the debt they owed. It stopped altogether before the Reformation. According to evidence here quoted the royal gift arrived for the last time in 1514. One of the letters about this wine business is very curious. Its date is 1478. It is from some London correspondent of Prior Sellyng, who withholds his name. He says that he has had a conversation with the "man" of a certain French bishop, and that this person had informed him "that the Kyng of Fraunce askyd wheder that he had any to-kyng of Seynt Thomas delyveryd him fro your Lordshyps wisdom, made as he mygth wer hit on hys hatt in worsshyping of Seynt Thomas, the which wer to hym a gret pleasure." The king was Louis XI. With so striking a confirmation before our eyes, one is half inclined to think that Scott's romance of 'Quentin Durward' is true history. The novelist could never have heard of this letter, but derived his notion of the peculiar form Louis's devotion took from French sources. This passage should make us careful how we regard old documents as spurious on account of the strange coincidences to be found therein. The manuscript in this case is happily at hand, but had a parallelism of this kind been noticed in the 'Paston Letters,' it would be held by those who doubted their genuineness to be a convincing note of forgery. The language of several of the letters, too, is in places quite as strikingly modern as anything that was objected to in the correspondence of the Pastons. In one place, in or about 1493, we find an Oxford correspondent of the Prior speaking of a book being in print:—"I can nat thynke yt lykely that ther shall come any moo of them *yn prentys*"; and, in 1496, we find Henry the Seventh, or the clerk who composed his letter for him, twice using the words "redy money." Yet, were there not this positive evidence to the contrary, most of us would say that such phrases were not older than the seventeenth century.

The condition and conduct of the clergy before the Reformation is a subject which will probably furnish matter for controversy for ages to come. Some small crumbs of information are to be picked up here which will be useful to those who know how to employ them and not to estimate them beyond their true value. Letter XVI. contains an account of two scandalous ecclesiastics, who had broken their vows and been living an evil life at Whitstable, and LXXXII. is a most entertaining complaint—a jumble of Latin and English—written by the Vicar of Westclyve, complaining that his income is not sufficient for his wants, and that everything in the parish had gone wrong:—"Sed heu! heu! me pro dolor! quia parvus ibi victus, pauciora ligna, sed nulla penitus aqua." Such murmurings are not unknown in these days, but they commonly take the form of begging letters written in slipshod English, not in racy mediæval Latin. In another place we find some persons speaking of a priest, and saying that they had "casually mett wyth hym att the taverne." The fact that it was contrary to ecclesiastical order for a priest of the unreformed church to say two masses in one day has been denied;

here, however, is positive evidence both that the practice existed and that it was considered improper:—"Then he sange twyse uppon the day, the which was ageynst conscience," says the vicar of Bersted, writing in 1465.

The spelling of many of the letters is very singular, markedly different, as far as we have noticed, from that of contemporary papers written in the northern or midland counties. We doubt not that it accurately reflects the pronunciation of the writers, but what sound they gave to the word *neighbours* when spelt "neythpures" we are at a loss to guess.

The book has been conscientiously edited throughout. The Introduction contains much information, and nothing useless, except some Latin verses, which have been printed before in Dr. Maitland's 'Dark Ages' and elsewhere, and have but very little to do with anything in the book.

On Horseback through Asia Minor. By Capt. Fred. Burnaby. 2 vols. (Sampson Low & Co.)

CAPT. BURNABY'S many admirers will be glad to accompany him on his ride through Asia Minor. It may be doubted whether this work is destined, like its predecessor, to be "the book of the season," but to say this involves no disparagement to the author, for any such expectation would, in fact, be unreasonable. The traveller is, as before, full of animation, energy, and resource, and the subject is certainly one of more real importance; but the dramatic elements of the Khivan adventure are necessarily absent, for while a British officer is received with as much courtesy in Turkey as in Russia, he cannot hope there for that tender solicitude which does not hesitate on occasion to seize him and reconvey him to the frontier. In short, although Capt. Burnaby found the country he traversed in the agony of preparation for war, he encountered few difficulties, except such as arose directly or indirectly from the severity of the winter climate. He gives a faithful itinerary of his route, but a rapid journey at that season does not afford many opportunities for observation, especially when, as in the higher districts of Armenia, the country is buried under snow. We could have willingly heard more from so accomplished a traveller about the character and resources of a country which is by no means familiar ground; but this was not the immediate purpose of his journey, and it is only fair to learn from the traveller himself what that purpose was, and to see how he fulfils it. There is a refreshing simplicity about the author's utterances which never leaves his readers in doubt as to his views or intentions. In his Preface he describes shortly, and not without a touch of irony, the confused state of the English feeling last autumn on Turkish affairs, the genuine indignation at the massacres being, he thinks, appreciably sharpened by the suspension of payments which preceded them. In this chaos of opinion, Capt. Burnaby thought he could not do better than employ his winter leave in a journey through the country itself. In Asia Minor he would be able to observe the Turkish character, and the relations between Turks and Christians, at a distance from European influences, and by thus studying the question at its fountain head, to obtain some insight into the facts and merits

of the case. Accordingly, during a five months' journey through Anatolia and Armenia, he held daily intercourse with all classes and races, Mohammedan and Christian, and was almost always hospitably received. He noted down on the spot the conversations held, and the impressions he formed, and now modestly offers to the public "merely a sort of verbal photograph, if the reader will allow me to use the expression, of what I heard and saw during the journey." The testimony, on the momentous questions at issue, of an intelligent and practised traveller, who is also a good linguist, and has, besides, recently travelled in Russia, is necessarily of interest and value, whatever may be thought of the conclusions at which he arrives. These he states frankly, *more suo*. He has a friendly feeling for the Russian people as distinguished from their Government, and is alive to the shortcomings of the Turk; nevertheless, he would have us cast in our lot actively with the latter, not only in our own interest, but as a matter of justice and humanity! The conversations which reflect the opinions of the different classes are, accordingly, the most important element in these volumes, and are usually racy and striking; if they occasionally resemble somewhat closely the amusing and characteristic dialogues which embellished the 'Ride to Khiva,' it must be remembered that Eastern thought and diction have everywhere a character of their own. The conversations read so well that they may have been sometimes pieced together for the sake of effect, but we have no right or inclination to assume that they do not substantially represent the opinion of the speakers. In estimating their value as illustrating the social condition of Asia Minor the reader must bear in mind, on the one hand, the strong political bias of the author; and, on the other, his undoubted good faith and intelligence. We are struck by finding the Turkish officials, even in the remoter districts, thoroughly informed as to the relations subsisting between the different powers of Europe, and the bearing of these relations on the Eastern Question. There was no wish anywhere for war, except to escape from an intolerable pressure, and some misgivings as to its results. All their misfortunes, as well as the prejudice with which they are regarded in many quarters, were set down to the incessant intrigues and agitation of Russia; and when reproached with the massacres in Bulgaria, they were eager to point out that the rising there was suppressed, not by Turkish troops, but by Circassians, who had only a few years before been driven from their native country by the Russians, and had then learned those "lessons in massacre," which they only too faithfully repeated. Only among the recruits was there any enthusiasm for war. Capt. Burnaby observed one batch of these in tears and despair, but this arose from their having been left behind. Among the more thinking classes there was a deep-seated feeling that the Russian aggression was unprovoked and unjust, a feeling which the Kadi of Arabkir expressed in the following parable. The prophet Daniel, he said, saw in a dream a young man named Samson:—

"Samson was beautifully dressed; his clothes alone would have cost all the gold and *caimé* that have ever been circulated at Constantinople. The

rings on his fingers were encrusted with precious stones,—beautiful stones,—each one more bright and lovely than the eye of the most beautiful woman whom mortal man has ever seen. Samson had conquered almost the whole world; but there was one very poor and mountainous country which did not acknowledge him as its lord. Samson had 10,000 wives, all of them fat and lovely. The keys of his treasure-chests were in themselves a load for 10,000 camels. He was all vigorous, and able to enjoy every blessing which Allah had bestowed upon him; but some men are never satisfied; Samson was one of them. He wanted more. His heart was not full; he wished to conquer the poor country, and take a few wives from the lovely daughters of the mountaineers. He came with an enormous army. The people fled. The troops ate up everything. There were no provisions. There was nothing left even for the king. Samson offered 10,000 sacks of gold for a handful of millet-seed. It could not be purchased. The soldiers died; the sergeants died; the officers died; the Pachas died; and, last of all, Samson died. Let this be the fate of the Russians if they come here," added the Cadi. "The Tzar has much land; he is rich; he has many more soldiers than we have; he has everything to make life happy; yet he is not content; he wishes to take from his poor neighbour the pittance which he possesses. Let Allah judge between him and us," continued the speaker, "and God alone knows who will be victorious!"

Capt. Burnaby everywhere questioned the Armenians as to their treatment by the Turks. There was a good deal of grumbling, but many admitted frankly that their relations were not unsatisfactory; that they had not much to complain of, and that matters were gradually improving. He heard circumstantial stories of ill-treatment of Christians in the towns to the eastward, but these somehow always receded as he advanced in that direction. When you are "in the East"—and the meridian of Constantinople runs to the westward of St. Petersburg—the truth is very hard to find!

The social intimacy of the two races seems to Capt. Burnaby a sufficient proof that their relations with each other are not very unfriendly. He constantly met them dining at each other's houses on amicable terms. In the seclusion and general treatment of their women there appears to be no difference between the Turks and the Armenians. The principal grievance of the latter was the refusal of the Kadi to accept Christian testimony on a level with Mohammedan. Of grave personal injuries there was no question at all, and when asked whether Christians were ever impaled they laughed outright. A Turk, who had read in a native newspaper the famous statement which suggested this question, remarked, "It is a pity when Christian priests or Mohammedan imams mix themselves up with politics; their place is to calm men's passions, not to rouse them." We would commend this Turk's sentiment to any among ourselves whom it may seem to concern, and certainly to a well-known American bishop, whose unseemly adjuration to the "God of battles" Capt. Burnaby prints in an Appendix.

Both Turks and Christians agreed in complaining bitterly of the frequent changes of their governors. Many of these whom Capt. Burnaby met were men of energy and good will, which is altogether neutralized by the uncertainty of their tenure of office. It would, perhaps, have been inconsistent with the scheme of this work to dwell in detail on the graver

administrative faults which retard the progress of the country; but we have melancholy proofs of stagnation in his contrast of the ancient with the modern dwellings of the people, in the great mineral and agricultural wealth lying undeveloped, and in the scantiness of the population, in itself a sign of misgovernment in so fertile a country. The negligence and apathy of the Turk, and the corruption and absence of public spirit among the Armenians (which they themselves freely admit), are, perhaps, equally to blame.

Capt. Burnaby reprints in an Appendix various official documents relating, *inter alia*, to the murder by the Russian troops of the British wounded at Inkermann, to the tortures lately inflicted on religious nonconformists in Poland, and to the massacres of women and children in the Caucasus and elsewhere. These statements, with other matter to the same effect throughout these columns, will be unpalatable reading for those who for various reasons have hitherto reserved all their indignation for the Turk. They do not disprove his brutality, but they throw light on the general character of the policy and conduct of Russia, and on the fitness of her pretensions to act as the apostle of humanity.

Socially, at all events, the Turk always shows to advantage. Our author, on arriving at Angora, was met by the servants of a certain Suleiman Effendi, who, having heard that an Englishman was coming, wished to receive him as his guest; and on this and other occasions he was treated with the most delicate and generous hospitality. The Pasha here, and his son, were also men of more than average culture. Orders had just come to proclaim the Constitution, and doubts were felt whether the solitary cannon possessed by Angora could be trusted to fire 101 times. Neither friends nor foes expected much from the experiment of a Parliament; but they may possibly be disappointed, for the political capacity and acumen of an Eastern people by no means depend, as we might be apt to assume, on proficiency in reading and writing.

The interest of our author's journey, as well as its difficulty, increases as he proceeds eastwards. The almost impassable rivers of mud in the plains were bad enough, and the upsetting of horses and baggage on such roads must have tried the patience as well as the resources of the most enduring traveller. In Armenia, however, this is replaced by snow and ice, and at one point the whole party were obliged to slide on horseback down a glacier. The guide went first:—

"And now I prepared to make the descent. It was not an agreeable sensation. I was on the edge of the precipice. The yelling Mohammed was castigating my animal from behind. I felt very much like Mr. Winkle, as described in the 'Pickwick Papers,' the first time he was on skates. I would have gladly given Mohammed five shillings or a new coat to desist from the flagellating process. However, the die was cast. My followers were looking on. What the guide had done it was very clear that an Englishman ought to do. I committed myself to Providence. Away we went. The steam roundabouts in the Champs Elysées in Paris revolve at a great pace; a slide down the artificial ice-hills in St. Petersburg will sometimes try a man's nerves; but the sensations experienced in these manners of locomotion are nothing to what I felt when sliding down that glacier. Was I on my horse or was I not? Now we were waltzing madly down the slippery surface, and then my

boots were touching the ice itself, owing to my animal's position. One moment we ricocheted from a rough piece of hard substance, and were flying in the air, as if jumping the Whissendine brook; a second later we were buried, as the guide had been, in six feet of snow. Next came the turn of my followers. Their descent was a fearful thing to witness, but fortunately not half so dangerous as it appeared. With the exception of some damage to the luggage and saddlery, there was little harm done. "I never thought as how a horse could skate, sir, before!" remarked my English servant, as he slowly extricated himself from the snow-drift. "It was more than sliding, that it was—a cutting of figures of eight all down the roof of a house! And then I was buried alive in the snow, to finish up with! Mohammed will have something to pray about, if he has to go down any more of these hills, for nothing but Providence can save a man's neck in these here parts."

The accommodation he met with in this region was far inferior to that in Anatolia. The dwellings are often constructed underground, like those we read of in mediæval Persia and elsewhere. In one of these hovels, with every aperture closed by reason of the cold, and where the chief occupation of the inmates was the manufacture of fuel from cow-dung, the author was detained for several days by a severe illness.

There is a rapidly descending scale of cleanliness among the different races. The Turk stands at the top, and next, but far below him, the Armenian; to which circumstance, quite as much as to religious differences, Capt. Burnaby attributes the repugnance and antipathy of the Turk for his Christian neighbour. Below the Armenian again comes the Kurd, who looks on the Turk as quite thin-skinned and effeminate in these matters, and although they are fellow-religionists, not much love is lost between them. The Kurd has some chivalrous qualities, but is a thorough savage. He is dreaded by all his neighbours alike, and his allegiance to the Sultan sits very loosely on him. Many of the chiefs are in receipt of Russian gold, and it is understood that they will fight for the side that pays them best.

When we read Capt. Burnaby's account of the state of military preparations at Erzeroum and Kars, the absence of method and of forethought, the wretched commissariat, and the ill-prepared defences, we are not surprised at his predicting the speedy collapse of the Turkish forces in Asia; but the best general is he who makes the fewest mistakes: Capt. Burnaby did not apparently calculate that the Russians would make so many. The judgment, or guess, of the Turkish authorities in Asia Minor was more accurate.

The river Euphrates, even in its early career, hemmed in among the precipices of Armenia, is a goodly stream, over a hundred yards wide, and nine or ten feet deep. The author's descriptions of the routes leading thence into Syria on the one hand, and to Baghdad on the other, supplemented as these are by other authorities, and by useful maps, form a fitting adjunct to the work, for the subject might soon become one of practical moment if the Russians could establish themselves at Erzeroum. The account of the proposed line of defence for Constantinople, with the accompanying map, is also acceptable and opportune. But, for the general reader, the chief attraction of the book lies in the insight afforded into the feelings and opinions of a people whose actual condition is a matter of

so much interest, and in the many varied pictures, grave and gay by turns, but drawn with unflinching life and spirit, of their ways and doings.

THE COUP D'ÉTAT.

Histoire d'un Crime, Déposition d'un Témoin.
Par Victor Hugo. Vol. I. (Paris, Calmann Lévy.)

M. VICTOR HUGO's 'History of a Crime' turns out to be a less important work than had been expected. In several passages he speaks of himself as "the historian," and of his book as "History," but the title-page accurately states the aim of the writer which has only been to give "the evidence of one witness" in the Grand Inquisition of History. The book was written in 1852,—a part of it has already seen light; one whole chapter is to be found, indeed, at full length in a volume published by M. Lévy not long ago, and the whole has been anticipated by such excellent writers as those other "witnesses of the crime," MM. Taxile Delord, Schœlcher, and Ténôt, as well as by Mr. Kinglake, M. Babou, and many more. How little of a history is this 'Histoire d'un Crime,' may be seen from the fact that throughout its pages M. Victor Hugo assumes that all the main facts are already known to his readers; that the character of every personage named is thoroughly understood by them; and, above all, that the events of 1848-51 are fresh in their minds. Considered not as history, but as material for history, this diary of the cab-journeys and the dreams of the author on the days and nights of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th of December, 1851, is not of much importance, as the writers named above have already given all the facts that were needed with greater accuracy than can be expected from M. Victor Hugo.

So much for the historical value of a work which, to judge from its short Preface, was not thought worth publication until the present political situation of France offered a chance of selling it. Of its literary value, it is impossible to speak except in hesitating terms. While the greater part of its pages consist in mere disorderly jottings of impressions of the moment, there are scattered here and there passages of extraordinary vigour and of exquisite polish of style,—passages which would have been more widely read and better remembered in the future had they appeared in a different setting. Such is a character of Morny, which, if a little theatrical or exaggerated, is, nevertheless, in essentials true, and in style perfect:—

"Celui qui écrivait ces lignes a connu Morny. Morny et Walewsky avaient dans la quasi-famille régnante la position, l'un de bâtard royal, l'autre de bâtard impérial. Qu'était-ce que Morny? Disons-le. Un important gai, un intrigant, mais point austère, ami de Ronieu et souteneur de Guizot, ayant les manières du monde et les mœurs de la roulette, content de lui, spirituel, combinant une certaine libéralité d'idées avec l'acceptation des crimes utiles, trouvant moyen de faire un gracieux sourire avec de vilaines dents, menant la vie de plaisir, dissipé, mais concentré, laid, de bonne humeur, féroce, bien mis, intrépide, laissant volontiers sous les verrous un frère prisonnier, et prêt à risquer sa tête pour un frère empereur, ayant la même mère que Louis Bonaparte et, comme Louis Bonaparte, un père quelconque, pouvant s'appeler Beauharnais, pouvant s'appeler Flahaut, et s'appelant Morny, poussant la littérature jusqu'au vaudeville et la politique jusqu'à

la tragédie, vivant tueur, ayant toute la frivolité conciliable avec l'assassinat, pouvant être esquissé par Marivaux, à la condition d'être ressaïsi par Tacite, aucune conscience, une élégance irréprochable, infâme et amiable, au besoin parfaitement duc; tel était ce malfaiteur."

The description of "M. Louis Bonaparte," as the Emperor is called, as "the man who stuffed the Eagle" will probably live, as deserves too the following passage about M. Dupin:—

"Les représentants sommèrent le président de se mettre à leur tête et de rentrer dans la salle, . . .

"M. Dupin refusa net, tint bon, fut très-ferme, se cramponna héroïquement à son néant.

"Que voulez-vous que je fasse? disait-il, mêlant à ses protestations effarées force axiomes de droit et citations latines, instinct des oiseaux jaseurs qui débitent tout leur répertoire quand ils ont peur." The comparison of M. Dupin to a frightened parrot is carried through a longer passage with great humour.

M. Victor Hugo seems, to judge by his Preface, to see a resemblance between 1851 and 1877. He might be answered in some of his own words, which, however, apply not to 1877 but to 1830:—"Charles X., en chassant les 221, s'était exposé à ce soufflet, la réélection des 221. Nous" (the deputies in 1851) "ne sommes point dans cette situation. Les 221 étaient populaires, l'Assemblée actuelle ne l'est pas. Une Chambre injurieusement dissoute, que le peuple soutient, est toujours sûre de vaincre." Were the last words really written in 1852? They read like a prophecy for the present month. To-morrow's elections, and Monday's declaration of the poll, may make the prophecy come true.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

Erema. By R. D. Blackmore. 3 vols. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

Pauline. By L. B. Walford. 2 vols. (Blackwood & Sons.)

'EREMA' is readable, as are all Mr. Blackmore's novels; but it must be rated as a minor work of the author of 'Lorna Doone' and 'The Maid of Sker.' It has not the narrative and dramatic force of the first and best of his writings, nor is any character in it of equal value with that of the inimitable Welshman. Yet those who appreciate the minute landscape-painting of the most graphic of literary naturalists will find much to charm them in the new scenery of California, which he describes almost as well as Kingsley portrayed the tropic beauties of Central America, and will retain abiding impressions of such incidents as the mountain storms on the Blue River and the wild sport made by the English Channel among the upstart creations of the sanguine projector, Major Hockin. Both the mighty Californian settler and the pertinacious Englishman are rudely baffled, though neither subdued, by the forces with which they love to grapple in their very different ways, and the story of their warfare is as edifying and far more pleasant than most tales of modern heroism. Old Sam, Erema's first protector when that stout-hearted but undisciplined maiden is left in a wild country to face the world alone, is a fine specimen of natural humanity, simple and brave, with a useful touch of pugnacity, which occasionally, as in

the case of Pedro's death, verges upon the ferocious. Yet is he at the root a tender-hearted gentleman, and Erema does well, when her task of clearing her father's name from the mystery of crime which has shadowed it through life is completed, in returning from the apparent vantage-ground of wealth and high station in England to unite herself to those who have been the staunch friends of her youth. Compared with the grand proportions of the sawyer and his son, the figure of the major, Erema's English ally, is rather conventional and small, but in honesty and energy the peppery little "lord of the manor" is in no degree behind them, and there is much humour of a kind we have met before in Cradock Nowell's friend Hutton and his wife, in the contrast between the major's fiery zeal, and the loving but not blind appreciation of his doings shown by his wife, good aunt Mary. Of course the rustic modes of thought and speech are mastered as usual by one who knows them. The dialogue with the sexton, Master Rigs, is a fine study in its way, and when he magnifies his office in the old parish church, he brings a picture to our view which we who are old enough can alone appreciate. "... I at my time of life go about, from Absolution to the fifth Lord's Prayer, with a stick that makes my rheumatics worse, for the sake of the boys with their pockets full of nuts." As full of subtle turns of rustic knowledge, both of men and things, is nearly every page in the book; but Erema does not tell us very much of herself in her narrative, and the plot is neither pleasing nor sufficiently probable to add much to our enjoyment of the tale. It is tragic, like the former ones; but, acting on the Horatian principle, Medea is off the stage, and the unravelling of what he finds an old story at the outset is not sufficiently exciting, or does not present itself so vividly to the reader as to affect greatly his interest in the book.

Amid the desert of novels, dreary, vulgar, or sensational, but all commonplace, which the reviewer has to explore, it is gratifying to light on one which belongs to none of these classes; one in which the incidents are as interesting as is consistent with probability, and in which the principal characters behave and talk like ladies and gentlemen, with perhaps a little spice of brightness more than is usual, just sufficient to make their actions and words appear worth recording. Such a novel is 'Pauline,' which quite maintains the reputation of the magazine in which it appeared; for, whatever may be said of the political disquisitions of *Blackwood*, it retains the power of story-telling. 'Pauline' is not a novel of plot; that is to say, there is no *dénouement* to which the events of the story lead up. The catastrophe when it comes is quite unexpected, as such things usually are; and not brought about by any of the related actions of the persons whom it affects. We are not set to guess a riddle: all that we know is that four people are put before us, and we watch their conduct through a portion of their lives. As usual, it is the more commonplace characters who arrive at the more satisfactory conclusion, and who furnish the comedy of the story, while contributing in some degree to the melancholy, which is after all the prevailing tone. Mr. Walford evidently has a keen appreciation of the irony of life, which pursues

an English maiden of the present day no less than a Greek king of the heroic age. Together with this, he has as quick an eye as Mr. Black himself for the beauties of a Highland bay, or a stream in "spate," and with fewer words he contrives to give as vivid pictures as that master of scenery. Sometimes, perhaps, he is too sparing of his words: for instance, the reader feels as if he ought to know a little more clearly what has happened to Pauline and her brother between the first and second parts of the story. Until he is told that they are "penniless," he has never heard anything about their money-matters; nor is there anything to show that they have ever been otherwise. Then who is Heinsicht, the German? Why does he come in when he does, and what becomes of him? The reader expects that he is in some way going to have an important influence on Blundell's fortunes: but apparently he is not wanted. Perhaps, after all, these little abruptnesses are not so unlike what are met with in real life as to entitle a critic to cavil at them. At all events, it may fairly be said, that in the hope which we expressed, when reviewing a former story of Mr. Walford's, that we might one day have a novel from him, for which we should be grateful, we have not been disappointed.

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN.

Modern Magic: a Practical Treatise on the Art of Conjuring. By Prof. Hoffmann. With Illustrations. (Routledge & Sons.)

Grey Towers; or, Aunt Hetty's Will. By M. M. Pollard. (Griffith & Farran.)

The Pampas: a Story of Adventure in the Argentine Republic. By A. R. Hope. (Edinburgh, Nimmo.)

The Adventures of Tom Hanson; or, Brave Endeavours after Success. By Firth Garside, M.A. (Samuel Tinsley.)

A Sunshine in the Shady Place. By Edith Miller. (Houlston & Sons.)

From New Year to New Year, and from All the World Round. By the Author of 'Copsley Annals,' &c. (Seeley, Jackson & Halliday.)

Guiding Lights: Lives of the Great and Good. By F. E. Cooke. (Edinburgh, Nimmo.)

The Feasts of Camelot, with the Tales that were Told There. By Eleanora Louisa Hervey. (Washbourne.)

For Old Sake's Sake. By Stella Austin. (Masters & Co.)

Our Ruth: a Story of Old Times in New England. By Mrs. Prentiss. (Nisbet & Co.)

Rest on the Cross. By Eleanora Louisa Hervey. (Washbourne.)

"The novice," says Prof. Hoffmann in his 'Modern Magic,' "may be encouraged by assuming, as he safely may, that the most finished of popular performers was once as awkward as himself, and were he to attempt any unfamiliar feat would probably be as awkward still." We wonder whether this manual dexterity, if acquired, would be of use in the delicate manipulation of a recognized handicraft, or whether sleight-of-hand is only valuable to conjurers and—pickpockets! A thick volume of adroit tricks, with directions how to do them, is suggestive of much wasted ingenuity and patience; for what only amuses an audience for one night, it requires the lifetime of the performer to acquire a rather heavy price to pay. Prof. Hoffmann writes with much candour; his directions are lucid, but quite as difficult to follow out as if they were exhortations to all the cardinal virtues. Amateurs may find instructions for some tricks sufficiently simple, but we should imagine that to go through a course of study of Prof. Hoffmann's work would perplex the brain.

'Grey Towers' is much more of the novel type than is advisable in books for young people: the

story is mildly interesting, but it is somewhat out of proportion; the plot is too big for the book, which required more working out and more elaboration to make it a good tale. There is no harm in it, and young people will not object to the love portion.

Mr. Hope can tell tales about school life and school boys thoroughly well, as numerous readers can testify; he can also tell stories of adventures and wild Indian life in South America, almost better, as readers of 'The Pampas' can also bear witness. It does not require the assurance in the preface, to be convinced that this narrative is, most of it, a true history of six months in a frontier settlement, in the province of Cordova in the Argentine Republic. To those who are looking towards the fertile lands of South America as offering a field for the energy and enterprise of Europeans, this little book, which gives a graphic and spirited account of the dangers, difficulties, labours, pleasures, and opportunities of a settler's life in those fertile lands, may be of some use, as well as offering much entertainment to those who tarry at home and revel in Christmas books and Christmas stories. Towards the close of the book there are some sensible observations on the general condition of things, and the prospects of the country, which do not seem very hopeful at the present moment.

'The Adventures of Tom Hanson' is the story of a self-made man, told by himself, beginning with life in a coal-pit and continuing through many changing scenes and climates until the hero is left a prosperous man, married to the young lady who had once seemed as high above him as a "bright particular star," but whom he had loved faithfully and constantly; and he, and his wife, and his mother, and his little ones are all living in a beautiful country house built by himself, "as happy as the days are long." It is a good book, though the style in which it is written is not altogether felicitous.

'A Sunshine in the Shady Place' is a novelette with too much about love and marriage in it, and the personages are so numerous that the reader gets confused amongst so many friends and relations, to say nothing of the children who fill up all the corners; it is difficult to remember which are the mothers, the sisters, and the cousins; but the story is readable, and as everybody is made good and happy at last, it is like a Christmas-tree, where every one gets a prize.

How much of 'From New Year to New Year' is a compilation from Church Missionary journals, and how much is the work of the author herself, we cannot tell. It is, however, a collection that will interest those who are fond of anecdotes and stories of missions amongst the heathen in distant countries rather than those which concern the heathen at our own door. There is much about India and China,—nothing of those who are perishing for lack of Christian knowledge in our own land.

The intention of 'Guiding Lights' is excellent; but the style in which it is written is too strained and artificial, and the facts are sometimes lost in the mist of the words used to narrate them. More simplicity would have added greatly to the interest of the book.

King Arthur and the stories told at his court have a charm that is felt by young and old. The idea of gathering some of them in a book for young readers was excellent; but if, instead of trying to imitate antiquated forms of speech, Mrs. Hervey would have told the stories in her own graceful, simple prose, the interest would have been greater; as it is, they are somewhat difficult to follow, and the phraseology will rebuff young people. Yet the tales are well worth a little trouble and attention, as they will find if they try.

For 'Old Sake's Sake' is a charming tale till we come to the end, when we are made so sorry for poor little, bright, charming Master Dicky, that few readers will refrain from tears. The calamity that falls on him is too heavy and too sad to be put into a story so brief and slight. Nevertheless, we have some hearty, healthy laughs in the previous portion; and Miss Cordelia's dogs are a

delightful family. Miss Cordelia and her man Giles are as good in their way. Were it not for the too painful incident referred to, there would be nothing to blame in the book.

American stories have most of them some quaint drollery of style and method of treating the incidents that give them a freshness and an interest for English readers, which are not altogether due to the superiority of their matter, but to their "way of putting things." We have read much better American stories than 'Our Ruth'; indeed, we are sorry to say, the incidents are inextricably entangled, and the manner in which the narrative is conducted is as trying to the ingenuity of the reader as if it were a prize acrostic. 'Our Ruth' is not a fortunate story, for the reader has to take all the characters upon trust. Everything is recorded in voluminous journals, which everybody in the book makes a point of keeping, was seldom done, and "the little Eastern village of Pemaquid" must have been a singular exception to the general run of villages, east or west. It is a tiresome way of telling a story, and so artificial that it requires the skill of an author like Wilkie Collins to manage it agreeably. Still there are pictures of home life which are like Dutch interiors, quaint and comfortable; but none of the characters is distinctly drawn. The hero is intolerable, a weak and vulgar coxcomb, whose subsequent reformation finds him sceptical and indifferent. Kezia, the New England servant, is rather a caricature than a character; but her faculty for turning every incident into doggerel verse is rather amusing, and she is the pleasantest person in the book. As to Ruth, the angel heroine, she was "too good to live"; but she deserved a better fate than to be married at last to such a poor foolish creature as the hero. The other personages are mere paper figures, and not real people at all. Mrs. Prentiss has written, and can write, much better books than 'Our Ruth'.

Mrs. Hervey feels strongly convinced of the truth of the views which she has endeavoured to inculcate in 'Rest on the Cross.' Her desire is to show that no sacrifices nor self-renunciation made by one not in communion with the Roman Catholic Church can benefit those for whom it is made, or bring peace to the heart of the person making them. The story would be a very painful one if it were not so utterly unreal, both in persons and circumstances; indeed, the reflections and instructions overlay the incidents, and render them somewhat obscure. What between adverse circumstances which are brought to bear upon her through no fault of her own, and a perverse desire to do everything that is most painful to herself, the heroine has a very hard time of it without any necessity at all; her self-will takes the guise of self-denial, which does good to no one. At length she is converted to the Roman Catholic faith, and there finds the solution of all her difficulties, and consolation for all her afflictions. Of course, Catholics have a perfect right to set forth their own faith, and in the story of 'Rest on the Cross' there is no bitter or sectarian feeling evinced: it is written in the gentlest spirit of charity.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

GENERAL HAMLEY'S account of *Voltaire*, which forms one of the series of Foreign Classics for English Readers, published by Messrs. Blackwood, is clear and readable, and fulfils successfully enough its main object of giving English readers an outline of Voltaire's writings and life. With General Hamley's high estimate of the 'Henriade' we cannot agree; but, as a general rule, he underrates, not overrates, his author. Indeed, he seems to have hardly a suspicion of the real greatness and importance of Voltaire; and, that being so, it seems curious that General Hamley should have thought it worth while to give to the study of Voltaire's works the time and attention he has evidently devoted to them.

We heartily commend Prof. Monier Williams's *Hinduism*, which has just been published by the

Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge in their series of "Non-Christian Religious Systems." The volume contains within the small compass of 227 closely-packed pages not only what is generally noteworthy concerning the various creeds and forms of worship which have gradually been developed among the Hindus, but a great deal also about castes and sects and the present state of the Hindu religion which the author has been able to add from his personal observation during his recent travels in India. On some questions, — e.g., whether the sect founded by Chaitanya is not essentially just as much anti-Brahmanical as Buddhism itself — the professor's statements may perhaps be open to controversy. But these minor points do not detract from the general usefulness of this little manual.

THE Tell literature now forms a library in itself. But any one who wishes to know the results at which it has arrived can easily do so by consulting the latest contribution made to it, the exhaustive work by Prof. Roehholz on *Tell und Gessler in Sage und Geschichte*, which has been published at Heilbronn. In the historical part of his book he gives a full account of the Gessler family, traces the name of Tell through all its forms as a personal or local designation, and discusses all the facts recorded in history which agree with the legendary accounts of the hero and the oppressor. In the other and more generally interesting section he compares the Swiss tale of the patriotic archer's wondrous shot with the similar legends current elsewhere, and attempts to render manifest the mythological significance of the whole cycle of stories. And this he does, not with the wild impulsiveness of so many a reckless exponent of mythologies, but with a moderate enthusiasm ballasted with solid learning and tempered by good sense. Beginning with an account of the popular springtide customs which have preserved the old mythological idea of a conflict between the Sun and the Frost or the Summer and the Winter, and proceeding to trace the likeness borne by the arrows of the ancient gods and heroes to the rays of the summer sun, he then narrates the various legends existing in different lands about an archer who cleaves an apple placed on some person's head or performs some similar act of skill with a bow. Thus we have the Persian story of the king who shoots at and hits an apple on a slave's head; the Scandinavian tale of how Eigel, Wieland's brother, splits an apple on his son's head; the similar story told by Saxo-Græmmaticus of Toko, or Palnatoki, and a great number of almost identical legends, for the most part natives of Germany, though sometimes domiciled in Scandinavia. From Germany, Prof. Roehholz thinks, the story made its way into Switzerland also, just as the Estonian tales about Tollus may have been due to a Scandinavian influence. In other lands the legend has nearly, if not entirely, died out of the memories of the people. But in Switzerland, having been associated with the history of the country's independence, and having afforded to so many poets a theme for undying song, it has acquired a new lease of life, one which is not likely to be destroyed by any amount of testimony to the mythical character of the hero of the tale.

We have on our table *Pupil-Teachers' Examination Papers*, by M. T. Yates (Simpkin). — *Hetty's Strange History*, by the Author of 'Mercy Philbrick's Choice' (Boston, Roberts Brothers). — *A Testimony of Antiquity*, edited, with Notes, by W. A. Copinger (Pickering). — *Spiritual Letters of Archbishop Fénelon (to Women)*, translated by the Author of 'Fénelon, Archbishop of Cambrai' (Rivingtons). — *The Keys of the Apocalypse*, by F. H. Morgan, M.A. (Stock). Among New Editions we have *Short Studies on Great Subjects*, Vol. III., by J. A. Froude, M.A. (Longmans). — *The Agricola and Germania of Tacitus and the Dialogue on Oratory*, translated by A. J. Church, M.A., and W. J. Brodribb, M.A. (Macmillan). — *Annals of Tacitus*, translated, with Notes and Maps, by A. J. Church, M.A., and W. J. Brodribb, M.A. (Macmillan). — *The History of Tacitus*, translated,

with Notes, by A. J. Church, M.A., and W. J. Brodribb, M.A. (Macmillan). — *The Civilization of South-eastern Africa*, by J. Stevenson (Glasgow, Maclehose). — *Featherland*, by G. M. Fenn (Griffith & Farran). — *Playing at Settlers*, by Mrs. K. Lee (Griffith & Farran). — *The Heroic Wife*, by W. H. G. Kingston (Griffith & Farran). — *Brave Nelly*, by M. E. B. (Griffith & Farran). — *and Not Tradition but Scripture*, by the late P. N. Shuttleworth, D.D. (Rivingtons). Also the following Pamphlets: *Condensed Catalogue of Caxton Celebration at the Mechanics' Hall, Montreal* (Montreal, White). — *Lawn Tennis* ('Country' Office). — *The Recovery from the Principles of the Reformation*, by N. Pocock, M.A. (Pickering). — *Our Fears and Our Confidence*, by Rev. F. J. Ball, M.A. (Pickering). — *Self-Examination Questions*, edited by the Rev. G. H. Wilkinson (Wells Gardner). — *and Francesco Cenci e la sua Famiglia*, by A. Bertolotti (Firenze, Tipografia della 'Gazzetta d'Italia').

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Theology.*
Cox's (S.) Expository Essays and Discourses, 8vo. 8/6 cl.
Clarke's (Rev. W. W.) Lectures on Seven Sayings of Christ to the Woman of Samaria, 12mo. 1/6 cl. ip.
Fénelon's Spiritual Letters to Women, 12mo. 6/ cl.
Leale's (Rev. T. H.) Homiletic Commentary on Book of Ecclesiastes, 8vo. 4/6 cl.
Morrell's (M. A.) Our Work for Christ among His Suffering People, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
Plumptre's (B.) Words of the Son of God, 12mo. 7/6 cl.
Robinson's (T.) Homiletic Commentary on the Song of Solomon, 8vo. 4/6 cl.
Ryle's (Rev. J. C.) Old Paths, 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Vaughan's (Rev. Robert) St. John and the Seven Churches, 15/ cl.
Law.
Prentice's (S.) The Proceedings in an Action in the Queen's Bench, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.
Fine Art.
Men of Mark, Vol. 2, 4to. 25/ cl.
Robertson's (J. F.) Great Painters of Christendom, illus. 63/ cl.
Turner (J. M. W.), Works of, with Biographical Sketches, &c., by J. Dafforne, 4to. 42/ cl.
Poetry and the Drama.
Burns (Robt.), Works of, Vol. 2, roy. 8vo. 15/ cl.
Campbell's (D. C.) Essex, a Play, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Harrison's (W. H.) Lazy Lays, 7/6 cl.
Hungarian Poems and Fables for English Readers, Selected and Translated by E. D. Butler, cr. 8vo. 2/ cl. swd.
Molière's Dramatic Works, translated by C. H. Wall, Vol. 3, 12mo. 3/6 cl. (Bohn's Standard Library.)
Shelley's Works, edited by W. M. Rossetti, new edit. 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.
History and Biography.
Adams's (Rev. H. C.) Tales Illustrating Church History of England, Vol. 3, 12mo. 5/ cl.
Baxter's Downside Book of County of Kent, interleaved, 5/ cl.
De Beauregard (Marquis H. C.), Recollections of, edited by C. M. Yonge, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 21/ cl.
Gardiner's (S. R.) Personal Government of Charles I., 12 vols. 8vo. 24/ cl.
Lessing, by J. Sime, 2 vols. 8vo. 21/ cl.
Lycurgus (Archbishop), Life of, by F. M. F. Skene, 3/6 cl.
Menzius's (S.) History of the Ottoman Empire in Europe for Junior Classes, 12mo. 2/ cl.
Mozart, Life of, translated from the German of Dr. L. Nohl, by Lady Wallace, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 21/ cl.
Wynn (Charlotte W.), Memorials of, edit. by her Sister, 10/6 cl.
Geography.
Inne's (W.) History of Rome, Vol. 3, 8vo. 15/ cl.
Philology.
Aristotle's Rhetoric, with a Commentary, by E. M. Cope, edited by J. E. Sandys, 3 vols. 8vo. 31/6 cl.
Ball's (Rev. C. J.) The Merchant Taylors' Hebrew Grammar, 7/6 cl.
Guthrie's (M.) Causation and Free Will Theories of Volition, 8vo. 2/6 swd.
Palestra Oxoniensis, Questions and Exercises for Classical Scholarships, Part 2, cr. 8vo. 4/6 cl.
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Ferrers's (Rev. N. M.) Elementary Treatise on Spherical Harmonics, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
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Heir to Two Fortunes, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.

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Quiver, Vol. 1877, roy. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Roe's (Rev. E. P.) A Knight of the Nineteenth Century, 10/6 cl.
Wood's (S.) Miltum-in-Parvo Gardening, cr. 8vo. 2/ cl.

'THE BREITMANN BALLADS.'

Warwick House, Oct. 8, 1877.

IN reply to Mr. Leland's complaint in your number of Saturday last, that we have announced an edition of the Breitmann Ballads as the complete book from the author's revised edition, we beg to say that whatever fault there may be, it is not ours, the advertisement being a copy from the catalogue of Messrs. Chatto & Windus, from whom we purchased the stereotype plates.

In common justice to Mr. Leland, the objectionable part of the advertisement will in future be omitted. It is, however, only right to state that the word "complete" does not appear on either title-page or wrapper of our edition.

It would have been more courteous if Mr. Leland had in the first place communicated with us direct, as is the usual custom in such cases.

WARD, LOCK & CO.

"TO ALTHEA, FROM PRISON."

Oct. 1, 1877.

I HAVE been often puzzled and exercised in spirit by the rubbish which some critics or commentators (the Lord keep them humble!) have imported into certain lines of that excellent poet Lovelace's celebrated song:—

When Love with unconfined wings.

These gentry, in the plenitude of their inward light, have altered the second line of the third stanza in the most ruthless fashion; and we now find it printed in most cases:—

When flowing cups run swiftly round

With no allaying Thames;

"Thames" being made to do duty as a euphemism for water. But if we turn to the folio edition of Bishop Percy's MSS. and Ballads, published by N. Trübner & Co. 1868, we find:—

When flowing cups run swiftly round

With woo-allaying Thames.

Now, is not this what a poet such as Lovelace would have preferred to write? Surely there can hardly be a doubt about it; and I am glad that the errors of many years are at last dispelled.

Again, how much more worthy of the man is the true version of his last and most popular stanza:—

Stone walls do not a prison make

Nor iron bars a cage.

The spotless soul an innocent

Calls this an hermitage.

"The spotless soul an innocent," i.e., a poor fond wretch, calls this an hermitage. It is true that the editors of the edition suggest the insertion of a *d* after *an*—turning the thought into spotless and innocent—which would be at best a poor tautology. But what are their wanderings from the text compared with the wholesale Sternhold and Hopkins corrections, or rather substitutions, which are now current?—

Minds innocent and quiet take

That for an hermitage.

This I confidently affirm is neither what Lovelace thought nor what he wrote.

I think I have said enough to show the great danger that exists in any alteration of old texts by modern hands, who never appear to be satisfied unless they can make something belonging to an author their own.

The hint should not be thrown away upon improvers of Shakespeare. Let them, like the old scholiast, put what they please into the form of notes and comment, but alter the text—never!—any more than Mr. Wilson should cause his own name to be graven upon Cleopatra's Needle, excepting after a very mild and subsidiary fashion.

I apologize for troubling you with these remarks; but, as Capt. Cuttle says, "When found make a note of!"—and I only found all this out the other day.

WINCHILEA AND NOTTINGHAM.

THE CONFERENCE OF LIBRARIANS.

It is not to be denied that the *début* of the Librarians has been so far successful as to make an impression on the outer world, and draw attention to themselves and their important work. The formation of a permanent Society on the last day of their meeting shows a fixed purpose on their part of doing steady work that may be useful to all persons who care for books and their preservation. The programme of the meeting was extensive, and was fairly carried out; but the sum of new ideas gained by librarians of any experience was not found to be very large when the Conference came to an end. Still, as a first attempt, the gathering was a success. The papers which were read and the discussions that ensued were creditable and instructive.

The Wednesday sitting, which was devoted to the subject of cataloguing, was the most fruitful in practical suggestions. As Mr. Henry Stevens said, in his paper on 'Photo-bibliography,' the question of cataloguing our books has become serious; and, if it be impossible to recognize the claim made by Mr. Stevens, that the birth of every book should be registered as carefully as that of every human child, it yet must be admitted that, without some definite methodical arrangement, according to their contents, the multitudinous products of the printing-press defeat, by their numbers, the purpose of their existence—the communication and diffusion of ideas. Catalogues must be made, and are made, of many kinds, and forms, and systems. The labour of making them is great, and the question of economizing this labour was one of the most important that came before the Conference. It was not difficult to show that there is a considerable waste of time and labour in the cataloguing of one and the same book by some thousand librarians in various parts of the world. Centralization of effort is one obvious remedy for this state of things. A central office for the transcription and multiplication by printing of the title of every book that appears, or ever has appeared, would be supported by a comparatively small tax on the libraries of various nations. The orderly, periodical distribution of these titles, either on slips of paper gummed at the back or on cardboard, is an easy matter when the postal service is developing into a system of universal carriage. So far back as 1868, Mr. Henry Stevens wrote, and four years later brought forward, his plan for securing accurate copies of the titles of rare books by photography. All title-pages thus obtained he reduced to one-ninth of their original size, and gave the photographs to the printer, who reproduced them in readable type on a slip that was pasted side by side with the facsimile. The accuracy of description thus gained is, of course, of enormous importance to bibliographers. The slips are, moreover, at once made available for the catalogue by a simple indication to the printer of that word in the title which should form the alphabetical or subject heading. The size of the book would also have to be added by the cataloguer. The specimens exhibited by Mr. Stevens contain a heading a full line long, with the name of the author, followed by a short title, name of printer, place, date, and size. To this he has added, in the case of very rare books, a comprehensive collation. These titles, says Mr. Stevens, may be produced for sale at fourpence or sixpence each. It will be seen at once that this application of photography to the librarian's use is capable of further development.

A much cheaper method of obtaining the titles of modern, or rather of forthcoming, books without the labour of transcription might be secured by the aid of the publishers at very little cost to them. They would have merely to print on a leaf, at the beginning of each work they send out, the title of the book published, repeated three or four times under the several headings of author, subject, class, &c., to furnish the librarian with ready-made materials for three or four catalogues. Take, for instance, Macaulay's History. The leaf proposed

would appear in the first volume of the work, and would contain the following descriptions:—

Macaulay (Lord) History of England. 5 vols. 8vo. London, 18—.

England, History of, by Lord Macaulay. 5 vols. 8vo. 18—.

History of England, by Lord Macaulay. 5 vols. 8vo. 18—.

Stuarts. Macaulay's Hist. of England. 5 vols. 8vo. 18—.

These slips, or something like them, would be severed from one another by a library clerk, and each one be thrown into the alphabet to which it belonged. The elements of four catalogues would thus be brought at once into their proper place without the transcription by pen of one line. They would form catalogues (1) under authors, (2) under subjects, (3) under general classes, (4) under special classes. A specimen of what publishers might do in this way, printed by the firm of G. B. Putnam's Sons, New York, was exhibited at the Conference. It consists of one slip only of the full title, under the name of the author, with a summary of the contents, and a line of *other entries*, referring to three separate subjects, under which the book may be classed. The reward of the publisher for this addition to his ordinary work would be the very effective advertisement his book would have among the reading world.

It is true that one speaker at the Conference, himself a model librarian, raised his voice against the manufacture of catalogues by any factory process. The making of a catalogue, he said, is the best training a librarian can have. It tries his patience, his resource, his ingenuity. Take that from him, and he will have no chance of distinction. This argument recalls the objections raised by the breeders of horses against railways. On the other hand, Monsieur Depping, of St. Geneviève Library, and other persons of authority express a great desire for the diminution of the librarian's labours by any process of co-operative cataloguing that can be devised.

Another aspect of the subject of cataloguing discussed at the Conference was the use of separate cards for the titles, and their arrangement in boxes or drawers, as distinguished from the use of slips pasted on the blank pages of a book. The former method prevails largely in America, and is in use in some libraries in Scotland. The one obvious advantage of the card-catalogue is its completeness. The moment a new book is received, its title may be copied on a card which can be inserted without further trouble in its place in the box or drawer. On the other hand, a series of slips pasted in a book afford the student or reader an opportunity of glancing rapidly over page after page of titles in search of what he wants with a facility that he could not attain in fingering a series of cards with nothing but their bare edges presented directly to his view.

The General Catalogue of English Literature proposed to the Conference by Mr. Cornelius Walford, and the Universal Index urged by Mr. Ashton Cross, are schemes more easy to project than to perform. Find the labourers, or the money that will pay a competent staff of labourers for a series of years, and the thing may be done. If funds were found for the execution of a task so remote from most men's business as the exploration of Palestine, a purse ought soon to be made for the erection of so mighty an instrument of education as a Universal Index of Knowledge. Many attempts have been made at it by encyclopedists of the last and present centuries. The 'Universal Lexicon' of the old German, Zedler, extends through nearly eighty folio volumes. Bayle, in his 'Dictionnaire,' D'Alembert and his colleagues, in their 'Encyclopédie,' found it necessary to compress their over-abundant stores of learning. Our Scotch publishers in their Encyclopedias give a series of valuable treatises, but not a minute index to them. There is a marvellous treasury of medical knowledge compiled many years ago by Godfrey Ploucquet, in which the very page of the work referred to is given under every conceivable subject included in the science of medicine.

Another great achievement in the way of indexing is that referred to by one of the speakers at the Conference as the work of a committee of the Royal Society, namely, a catalogue of the scientific subjects treated in the innumerable volumes of *Transactions* of the learned academies and societies of Europe. Thomas Young, the hieroglyphist, accomplished a work of the same kind, but naturally less complete, about the end of the last century. The analogous task of indexing a large number of the countless essays that had appeared in English and American reviews and magazines was achieved twenty-five years ago by Mr. W. H. Poole, of Chicago, one of the visitors to the Conference. The work was found so useful that it was soon out of print, and a new edition was called for. More important avocations have, however, hitherto prevented the compiler from undertaking the onerous duty of publishing a volume that must contain at least twice the number of references included in the old edition. A committee of English librarians has therefore been appointed by the Conference to consult with a committee of Americans as to the best plan of completing and publishing a new edition of Poole's index to periodical literature brought down to the present time, by means of co-operation of the librarians of the two countries or otherwise, Mr. Poole having consented to superintend the publication himself. Recurring to the question of the expense of undertakings of this useful but unremunerative kind, we would throw out a hint that may be worthy of further consideration. Could not a permanent Index Society be founded with the support of voluntary contributions of money as well as of subject-matter? In this way a regular staff could be set to work, under competent direction, and could be kept steadily to work until its performances became so generally known and so useful as to enable it to stand alone and be self-supporting. Many readers would readily jot down the name of any new subject they meet with in the book before them, and the page on which it occurs, and forward their notes to be sorted and arranged by any Society that would undertake the work.

For the other subjects discussed at the Conference we must refer to the volume of Proceedings, which we believe will be printed without delay. Mr. Garnett's paper on the arrangement of books in the British Museum, Sir Redmond Barry's account of the Lending Library of Melbourne, and Mr. Wheatley's hints on Library Management, deserve especial attention. We have only to hope that the Library Association of the United Kingdom will flourish and that it will justify itself in public estimation by assisting libraries to become what they ought to be, efficient instruments of national education.

MR. FORMAN'S SHELLEY.

38, Marlborough Hill, St. John's Wood.

MAY I, with all possible brevity, ask your attention and that of your readers to some questions of fact in which I find myself at issue with the reviewer of my edition of Shelley?

1. There is nothing in the volume of 1823 to connect it with Mrs. Shelley. The reading "Unmasked" for "Unbound," in the title-page inserted in front of the remainder sheets of 'Prometheus,' &c., 'Hellas,' 'The Cenci' (2nd edit.), and 'Rosalind and Helen,' is well known, being duly recorded in Lowndes's 'Bibliographer's Manual' (G. Bell & Sons' edit.). If it be, as I supposed, a mere publisher's or printer's blunder, it is hardly curious; if Mrs. Shelley's, it would, indeed, be a remarkable mistake; but what is the authority for attributing it to her?

2. The statement that Mr. Rossetti altered "was" to "were" (Vol. II. p. 251) is cancelled as an erratum: I presume this fact escaped notice, or it might have been taken as evidence that I did more than look at the notes of Mr. Rossetti's edition. I read the text through more than once.

3. My failure "to note that Shelley's edition of

the 'Ode to Liberty' [Vol. II. p. 307] gives no stop after 'melody,' and does give a stop after 'wild,' can hardly be regarded as a sin; for Shelley's edition (at least all copies that I have consulted) does give a stop after "melody," and gives none after "wild," and I have printed the passage accordingly.

4. The substitution of "meekness" for "weakness" in 'Otho' (Vol. III. p. 402) can involve no question of critical perception, as there is but one text to go by, that of Mr. Garnett's 'Relics,' which the printer had for "copy." I simply failed to discover a printer's error, for the detection of which I am obliged.

5. You refer to 'The Magic Horse' as from Leigh Hunt's 'Companion,' although it purports to be printed in my edition for the first time as far as I know. In what issue of 'The Companion' can I find it? I fail to discover it in the original numbers (of which, by-the-by, I have not seen the printed wrappers), or in the editions of 1834 and 1840.

H. BUXTON FORMAN.

*** 1. Though we made no point whatever of Mr. Forman's omission to note that on the title-page of the issue of 1823 'Prometheus Unbound' was called 'Prometheus Unmasked,' we are surprised that the fact is considered too trifling to deserve notice by an editor who thinks it necessary to tell us whenever "extasy" is spelt with an s or a c, and whenever "tis" is spelt without the apostrophe. Of course, it is a printer's error, but it is assumed among Shelley students that the issue of 1823 had the sanction of Mrs. Shelley. By whose authority, if not by hers, can it have been put into circulation?

2. The cancelling of the statement in an erratum does not at all affect the fact that Mr. Forman, finding "were" in Mr. Rossetti's note, unadvisedly upon it without looking at the text.

3. From these remarks, and from his omitting to note the mistake about 'Prometheus Unmasked,' we infer that Mr. Forman is not very familiar with the issue of 1823. It is in this volume that the stop occurs after "melody" and the omission of the stop after "wild" in the 'Ode to Liberty'; not an important matter, certainly, but noteworthy, we think; for, as Mr. Forman says, the volume consists of "remainder sheets" of poems published in Shelley's lifetime.

4. The question of an editor's or scholiast's "perception" is always "involved" in the question what printer's errors do and what do not escape him. If the substituted word, as here, makes some kind of sense, an editor whose endowment is more mechanical than analytical is sure to let it pass, unless his memory saves him.

5. Owing to an accidental transposition of a member of a sentence, we do undoubtedly seem to say that not only the 'Dinner Party,' but the 'Magic Horse,' appeared in Leigh Hunt's 'Companion.' But, had we intended to deny Mr. Forman's statement in his note to the 'Magic Horse' that "he had printed it for the first time," we should, of course, have explicitly made the denial, and pointed out the number of the 'Companion' in which the poem had appeared. That it should have been printed at all by any editor as Shelley's is what puzzles and amazes us. And that Mr. Forman should be disturbed by what in our note was obviously a slip of the pen, and should not be disturbed at the charge it embodies of printing a poem of Hunt's or some one else's for Shelley's, puzzles and amazes us still more.

THOMAS WATSON AND NICHOLAS BRETON.

306, Goldhawk Road, Shepherd's Bush.

In 1593, C. M. dedicated Watson's 'Aminta Gaudia' to the Countess of Pembroke, and spoke of the death of its author. Mr. J. P. Collier also quotes, from a register of St. Bartholomew the Less, the entry,—"26 Sept., 1592, Thomas Watson gent was buried," and this with such probability may be taken as referring to the same. In the latter half of 1593 there was published, by "William Bailey in Gracious Street over against Leaden Hall," 'The Tears of Fancie; or, Loue Disdained,'

a series of sixty sonnets, bearing at the end of the sixtieth the words "FINIS. T. W."

It is curious that the posthumously published work of so known and esteemed a writer should have been thus printed without a trace of his name on the title-page, and nothing but the initials T. W. on the last. There can, I think, however, be no reason for doubting its genuineness. In the first place, its entry in the Stationers' Registers on 11th of August, 1593, is "John Danter. Item Entred for his copy vnder the handes of the wardens. A booke entituled the teares of flansie or Loue Disdained. By T. Watson vj^d." The author's name being here given, though not printed. This entry, it is true, gives the publisher's name as John Danter, whereas Mr. Christie-Miller's, the only known existent copy, bears, as quoted, the name of William Bailey, but, though the registers contain no note of assignment, we can only suppose that there was an assignment, though no entry of it. I had not mentioned this view as one that had occurred to me, yet Mr. E. Arber gave me the same explanation, and adds that the registers were kept very inaccurately. Secondly, the wording and style resemble T. Watson's other works, and do not resemble the wording, style, or rhythm of Breton. Sonnet 56 runs thus:—

Were words dissolved to sighs, sighs into teares,
And euerie teare to tormants of the mind;
The minds distresse into those deadly feares,
That find m[e] death than death it selfe can find.
Were all the woes [of] all the world in one,
Sorrow and death set down[e] in all their pride,
Yet were they insufficient to be[m]one,
The restles horrors that my hart doth hide.
Where blacke despair doth feede on euerie thought:
And deepe despair is cause of endles griefe:
Where euerie sense with sorrowe out-wrought,
Lies but in death dispiriting of reliefe.
Whilst thus my hart with lous plague torne asunder,
May of the world be cald the wofull wonder.

And Sonnet 57 thus:—

The hunted Hare sometime doth leaue the Hound,
My Hart alas is neuer out of chase:
The line-hounds line sometime is yet vnbound,
My bands are hopeless of so high a grace.
For natures sickness sometimes may haue ease,
Fortune though fickle sometime is a friend:
The miads affliction patience may appease,
And death is cause that many torments end.
Yet I am sicke, but shee that should restore me
Withholds the sacred [balm] that would recure me:
And fortune eke (though many eyes deplore me),
Nill lend such chance that might to loy procure me.
Patience wants power to appease my weeping
And death denies what I haue long bene seeking.

Arber's Reprint, pp. 206-7.

So far as to 'The Tears of Fancie.' We now turn to another subject. No. 1303 Sloane MS., British Museum, is a volume written by John Botterell, about the years 1600-3, and among other matters contains the transcript of a poem, in 110 six-line stanzas, entitled 'The Countesse of Penbroke's Passion.' Owing to these words, Horace Walpole, Lodge, and others, have held it to be by her ladyship. But they might as well have given her brother's 'Arcadia,' because it is entitled, 'The Countesse of Pembroke's Arcadia,' or have cited as hers, 'The Countesse of Pembroke's Ynychurch,' though it was a translation, by Abraham Fraunce, of Watson's 'Amyntas.' The truth is, 'The Passion' is by that prolific writer, Nicholas Breton, and as this, though noted by one or perhaps two, has not yet been accepted as his, I will, if allowed by the editor, prove it in a future communication by indisputable proofs. Now the curious point is that the first Sonnet of Watson's that I have quoted, the seventh, ninth, and tenth lines excepted, and the first eight lines of the second, are with slight variations worked, in one, two, or four lines at a time, into the first thirteen stanzas of 'The Passion.' Thus the first four lines of stanza 5, are ll. 1-4, Son. 56:—

Where woes dissol'd to sighes and sighes to teares,
And euerie teare to torments of the mynde,
The mynds distresse unto those deadly feares
That finde more death, than death it selfe can finde.

Lines 1, 2, stan. 6, are (nearly) Son. 56, ll. 5, 6:—
Put all the woes of all the world together,
Sorrowe and death sett downe in all their pride.

Line 4, stan. 6, is Son. 56, l. 8, much altered:—
With all the sorrowes that the hart may hide.

Lines 3-6 of stan. 2 repeat, with slight variation in line 5, ll. 11-14, Son. 56:—

Where every sense with sorrowe overwrought,
Lives but in death, dispayring of reliefe,
Whilst thus the harte with torment torne asunder,
Maye of the world be cald the woefull wonder.

Again, ll. 1-4, stan. 13, repeat ll. 1-4, Son. 57:—

The hunted harte sometimes doth leave the hound,
My harte (alas) is never out of chase,
The line-houndes lyfe sometimes is yet unbounde,
My bandes are hopelesse of so highe a grace.

And lastly, ll. 1-4, stan. 7, repeat, with slight variation, ll. 5-8, Son. 57:—

For nature's sicknesses sometyne may have ease,
Fortune (though fickle) some tyme is a friend,
The myndes affliction patience may appease,
And death is cause that many tormentes ende.

It is as curious, first, that Breton, throughout his 110 stanzas, never quotes Watson beyond the 13th stanza; secondly, that, although he quotes nearly all of Sonnet 56, and the first and greater half of 57, he nowhere quotes another line of Watson's sixty sonnets.

It may seem as an explanation at first sight to some, that the 'Tears' being here and there imperfect, the publisher applied to Breton to complete them, and that he therefore, in his 'Passion,' thought himself at liberty to re-use his own words. But, looking to Breton's prolificness, it appears to me that it would have been more easy for him to have written afresh than to have worked these sonnet lines and thoughts by separate bits into his first thirteen stanzas. Indeed, instead of ease, this inworking must, as seems to me, have required some skill and thought. Nor is it likely that these were the only places of the MS. that were wanting, nor if only three lines of Sonnet 56, if so much, were Watson's, that any publisher of those days after his death would have done anything else but have left it out, and numbered the next, or next but one, "Sonnet 56," &c. Lastly, looking especially to Sonnet 56, I see no difference between them and the other sonnets, and they read as by T. Watson, and have not the style of Breton.

Looking to the almost continuous and complete appropriation of these sonnets, and of no other line even of their companions, I suggest the following explanations. Either Breton had a liking for, or had expressed a liking for, these lines, and therefore managed to use them rather than write lines of his own, or, as is more likely, his patroness, the Lady Pembroke, had expressed her liking for them, and he, besides dedicating his poem to her, had, as a further expression of his esteem, incorporated them in his opening lines.

In another communication, I may, besides giving proofs of N. Breton's authorship of 'Our Saviour's Passion,' point out also the bearing of these quotations on those quotations of S. Nicholson from Shakespeare, for which he has been so vituperated by Mr. J. P. Collier.

BRINSLEY NICHOLSON, M.D.

Literary Gossip.

MR. GLADSTONE has in the press a collection of 'Essays, Letters and Addresses.' They will be divided into the following sections: Personal and Literary, Ecclesiastical and Theological, European and Historical. Mr. Murray will be the publisher.

MR. ARCHIBALD FORBES, who has been obliged to leave the seat of war owing to serious illness, is now recruiting his health in his native Highlands. When in Bulgaria, he was honoured by a request from the Czar to narrate what he had seen, and Her Majesty has also intimated her desire that he should give her a personal account of his experiences.

MR. GLADSTONE will contribute a Preface to Dr. Schliemann's account of his excavations at Mycenæ, which Mr. Murray will issue before very long.

THE Charity Commissioners have declined to sanction the purchase of the site near Addison Road, to which it was proposed to transfer St. Paul's School. The ground of

this refusal was that the price asked, something like 40,000*l.*, was considered exorbitant, but it in no way indicates any wish for the retention of the school in its present abode. In fact, the removal is decided upon, and the only difficulty is to find a suitable piece of land at a reasonable price.

MR. JAMES FERGUSON has in the press a monograph on 'The Temple of Jerusalem, and the other Buildings in the Haram Area, from Solomon to Saladin.' It will be issued by Mr. Murray.

ONE half of the "delegation" from the United States to the Conference of Librarians sailed for New York last Wednesday; the other half will follow in a few days. The eminent librarians now crossing the Atlantic were much gratified by the reception they met with here, and, on the whole, enjoyed their visit.

MR. J. HAMILTON FYFE is engaged in preparing a work on the social and political condition of France, from the Restoration to the present day.

MR. GEORGE HOWELL is writing a book, to be entitled 'The Conflict of Capital and Labour,' in which the history and the various aspects of trade unions, technical education, &c., will be treated at length. The publishers will be Messrs. Chatto & Windus.

THE lecture season of the London Institution will begin on December 10th, and end on April 11th. The lecturers will be Profs. Armstrong, Ball, Barrett, Bentley, Colvin, Ella, Huxley, Maudsley, Morley, Rolleston, Ruskin, and Tyndall; Sir J. Lubbock; Lieut. F. I. Palmer, R.N.; Rev. W. H. Dallinger; Dr. B. W. Richardson; Messrs. W. A. Barrett, Crookes, F. Darwin, Markham, Pauer, Proctor, Ralston, Ramsay, E. J. Reed, Romane, and E. B. Tylor, with probably Sir Edmund Beckett.

MR. MURRAY has in preparation an abridgment of the 'Speaker's Commentary on the Bible.' It will be edited by the Rev. J. M. Fuller, Vicar of Bexley, and will be published in monthly volumes. The same publisher has in the press a 'Student's Manual of English Church History, from the Reformation to the Present Day,' by Prebendary Perry, and a 'Student's Manual of Ecclesiastical History, from the Foundation of the Christian Church to the Eve of the Reformation,' by Mr. P. Smith. Mr. Murray will also bring out this autumn Major Duncan's History of the first Carlist War, which we mentioned some time ago. It is entitled 'The English in Spain.'

MR. TALBOYS WHEELER has completed his 'History of the Rise of the British Empire in the East, as told by the Government Records.' The work is expected by the next mail from Calcutta, where it has been printed under the author's personal supervision. It is an entirely separate work from his larger History of India, and will be published at an early date. Mr. Wheeler has also in the press, to appear in November, a 'History of the Delhi Assemblage.' The frontispiece is a lithograph from a drawing by Mr. Charles Earle, made expressly for the volume.

MESSRS. HANSARD'S Monthly List of Parliamentary Papers for September contains twenty-one Reports and Papers, and sixteen

Papers by Command. Among the first will be found a Return of the amount of Money Deposited, with the number of Depositors, in each of the last ten years, in the Post Office Savings Banks. This is a Return belonging to the year 1876. For 1877 attention is chiefly due to the Returns for the ordinary Savings Banks to the end of 1876; to the Return from each Free Library of Receipts, Expenditure, and Number of Volumes issued; to the Report of the Astronomer Royal on the Transit of Venus in 1874, with diagrams; to the Report and Evidence on Thames Floods Prevention; and to a Return of the Number of Hours for which the House of Commons has sat after Midnight in each Year, 1866 to 1877. Among the Papers by Command we note the Twenty-fourth Report of the Committee of Council on Education for 1876; the Twenty-third Report of the Postmaster-General; and the General Analytical Index to Reports, Evidence, and Appendices of the Royal Commission on Vivisection.

MESSRS. J. NISBET & Co. announce 'The Life of William Brock, D.D., first Minister of Bloomsbury Chapel,' by his early friend, the Rev. C. M. Birrell, author of the 'Life of the Rev. Richard Knill, of St. Petersburg.' The volume, in post 8vo., will appear before Christmas, and will contain a portrait and other illustrations.

MR. R. H. SHEPHERD is editing the new edition of 'Poetry for Children,' by Charles and Mary Lamb, together with 'Prince Dorus,' a fairy tale in verse, by Charles Lamb, and other poems from his pen not included in previous editions of his works.

THE Christmas number of the *Gentleman's Magazine* will consist of three complete stories, 'Old Father Time,' by R. E. Francillon; 'The Pearl Shell Necklace,' by Julian Hawthorne; and 'Jeph,' by F. W. Robinson. It will be issued on the 10th of next month. Mr. Francillon will also produce a Christmas story, independently of any current periodical. It is to be called 'In the Dark, in Seven Watches.'

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. will shortly publish, in one crown 8vo. volume, the War Correspondence of the *Daily News*, from April to November, 1877, forming a complete history of this year's campaign in the East. An important part of the work will consist of letters from Mr. Archibald Forbes and Mr. J. A. McGahan.

THE title of Beeton's Christmas Annual for this year will be 'Sixes and Sevens.' The list of contributors includes F. C. Burnand, Bret Harte, Henry S. Leigh, and other writers.

MR. H. G. HEWLETT, the biographer of Chortley, is about to publish a small volume of collected poems, under the title of 'A Sheaf of Verse.'

THE lectures of the Yorkshire Philosophical Society are to be, 'The History of the Alphabet,' by Mr. Isaac Taylor; 'Recent Geological Speculations,' by Prof. Duncan, F.R.S.; 'York and its Amusements in the last Century,' by Canon Raine; 'The Galvanic Battery,' by Mr. R. Routledge, F.C.S.

MR. R. S. FERGUSON, the editor of the *Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmoreland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society*, writes to us from Carlisle:—

"The Rev. T. Ellwood, of Torver Rectory, Coniston, read a paper on the subject of the 'Ancient British Numerals,' at the recent meeting of this Society at Furness Abbey; and communicated several versions of the numerals. On account of its importance, we adjourned the discussion thereon to our winter meeting in Whitehaven, next December. During the recent Diocesan Conference at Carlisle, three more versions were given or promised to me, and any information that may be given me will be laid before our Society in December next. Many persons recollect the Highland drovers as habitually using one or other of the various versions of these numerals."

SOME American publishers have lately asked the reporters of the daily papers not to report prices at their trade sales—a request which the *New York Publishers' Weekly* holds to be judicious, "as the sale is peculiarly a trade matter, and the public is apt to be practically misled by the prices reported. At the same time," it adds, "it must be said that this will not cover the difficulty, because the purchasers themselves at once advertise 'trade-sale slaughters,' and you can't check a disease by repressing the symptoms."

THE same journal announces that the fourth volume from "Aunt Jo's Scrap-Bag," by Miss Alcott, is coming in October or November. It will be about 'My Girls,' as a complement to the previous book on 'My Boys.'

THE first volume of the new Bible Commentary, edited by the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, will be published shortly by Messrs. Cassell, Petter & Galpin, and will contain St. Matthew, St. Mark, and St. Luke, by Prof. Plumptre, D.D., and St. John, by the Rev. H. W. Watkins, M.A. The editor has made arrangements with the following scholars for the remaining books of the New Testament:—the Rev. W. Sanday, Canon Barry, the Rev. A. J. Mason, Canon Spence, Dr. Moulton, the Rev. T. Teignmouth Shore, and the Rev. W. Boyd Carpenter.

A MONUMENT which has been placed in the cemetery of Middleton, near Manchester, to the memory of Samuel Bamford, author of 'Passages from the Life of a Radical,' was unveiled on Saturday last by Mr. Hibbert, M.P. Mr. Bamford was a poet as well as a political writer. He contributed several pieces to a volume of Lancashire poems, published some years ago under the editorship of the late Mr. Harland, F.S.A.

MAJOR RAVERTY writes:—

"These are the days of wonderful discoveries, truly, but the 'discovery' made among 'the rich collection of Persian MSS. in the Bodleian Library,' by 'Dr. Ethé, Professor in the University of Aberystwith,' in discovering a copy of the work, entitled 'Shigari Námah-i-Wilayat,' referred to in the *Athenæum* of the 15th of September last, is no discovery at all. This well-known and by no means uncommon work, under the title of the 'Shiguri Namah-i-Vilket, or Excellent Intelligence concerning Europe, being the Travels of Mirza Itesa Modeen in Great Britain and France,' was translated into English, and also into Hindústání, by J. E. Alexander, and published in London, only fifty years ago. The author's Muhammadan name has been incorrectly spelt in the above title of the work, the words having being wrongly divided, apparently. It is, correctly, Ihtishám-ud-Din, signifying the Splendour, Grandeur, or Pomp, &c., of the Faith; and, in the east, I would observe, we do not spell the words 'ud-Din,'—with *h*, as the Professor, Dr. Ethé has done—'Heddin,'—because there is no *h* in the words. Wilayat signifies a region, a country, a foreign country, abroad, &c., and, in

India, is generally applied by the natives to Europe, and to Great Britain in particular, but not exclusively so, for Afgháns and other Muhammadan people from beyond the north-west frontier of India, employed in India, are often styled Wilayátis."

We mentioned in the *Athenæum* of the 22nd of September the Hindustani translation. Mr. Alexander's edition and translation is now an uncommon book. Dr. Ethé's discovery is the *autograph Persian* text, which, according to our knowledge, exists only in the Bodleian Library. Major Raverty will, perhaps, grant that Dr. Ethé knows what *Wilayat* means, and also that there is no *h* in *ed-Din*.

THE summer season of the Manchester Field Naturalists and Archaeologists' Society was closed on Saturday last by an excursion to Winwick, near Warrington, the scene of the labours of Dr. Sherlock and Bishop Wilson. Mr. Beamont, the historian of Winwick, addressed the meeting on the history of the church and the antiquities of the neighbourhood. Mr. Bailey read a paper on Charles Herle, Rector of Winwick from 1626 to 1659, a favourite preacher before the Long Parliament, and the Prolocutor of the Assembly of Divines. The paper entered into some new matters of local history in which Herle was mixed up. The members of the Society also visited the new Art Gallery of Warrington on the invitation of the Mayor.

'DIANA, LADY LYLE,' Mr. Hepworth Dixon's romance, is about to appear in Berlin, a Prussian publishing firm having purchased the right of translation into German.

SCIENCE

A Treatise on Chemistry. By H. E. Roscoe and C. Schorlemmer. Vol. I. (Macmillan & Co.)

IT is now a good many years since any comprehensive work on pure chemistry has been published in this country, and it was quite time that the great results of the researches of recent years should be systematized in a treatise. It may, perhaps, be said that, the chemical theories of the day being as yet in a state of transition, the present cannot be regarded as the right moment for a consolidation of the facts and ideas gained in this field of science. But the question whether the current opinions rest on a sufficiently firm basis cannot easily be answered by contemporaries; that point had better be left to the decision of those who come after us, and it is for their advantage, as well as for that of the student of to-day, that the sum and substance of the chemical knowledge of our own times should be gathered within the limits of a single work. The doubts that attach to some of the reigning views should rather serve as an inducement to record those views, for we can never know which of them may become the germ of a new theory. There can be no question that the ideas that underlie many of the most important doctrines of chemical science have floated, so to speak, in the intellectual atmosphere long before they were enunciated in a well-defined form by this or that celebrated man. Of this, the scientific annals of our time afford numerous proofs; and if in former days books had been written with the view of mirroring the then state of chemical thought, we should now have fewer disputes regarding

the priority of this or that theorist. It is, then, on this ground more especially that the treatise of which the first part is before us should be welcomed by the scientific chemist.

The volume opens with an historical sketch of the rise and development of chemical science. This chapter is almost exclusively based on Kopp's classical 'Geschichte der Chemie.' It is distinguished, on the whole, by clearness and concentration; the thirty-eight pages which the sketch fills presenting an accurate and complete account of the progress of chemical knowledge from the earliest times down to the first years of our century. In particular, justice is done to the disciples of the Phlogistic school by pointing out the identity of their theory with the modern doctrine of Energy. Still, there are a few points which call for correction. Thus, the question as to the origin of the belief in the power of the philosopher's stone to heal disease and to act as the *elixir vite* is not satisfactorily answered. The authors have evidently not seen a recent work on Chinese medical literature, in which it is shown that the belief in the possibility of perpetuating life by chemical means arose in the Flowery Land, whence it passed to the Arabs of Spain.

The chapter on the general principles of chemical science includes the Laws of Combination, Definition of Atoms and Molecules, Continuity of the Gaseous and Liquid State of Matter, Kinetic Theory of Gases, Diffusion of Gases, and that vexed subject, Nomenclature. The law arising from the specific heat of the different elements is omitted from this chapter. It is true that H. F. Weber's researches on the specific heat of carbon have seriously shaken, if indeed they have not altogether destroyed, the validity of the law of Dulong and Petit; still the subject deserves something more than the brief allusion to it in the historical introduction. Cannizzaro's doubling of the atomic weights of some of the elements cannot well be understood without reference to the law of atomic heat; but it may be that the authors merely deferred the subject to another volume.

In dealing with the nomenclature of chemical compounds, the authors simply follow the current teaching. Ever since Gerhardt's unitary system was generally adopted, this subject has been in an unsatisfactory condition. The compound HCl, which in olden times was called muriatic acid, and afterwards hydrochloric acid, is named by the modern school hydric chloride, also hydrogen chloride, and even chlorine hydride. But why should we not say hydrogen-chlorine? The answer would probably be, that this nomenclature could be applied conveniently to binary compounds only; that it would break down in the case of ternary and quaternary combinations, and that, consequently, not much would have been gained. This is true enough. But then the present mode of naming the salts of oxyacids is so utterly at variance with the views entertained with regard to their constitution! How can we, the followers of Gerhardt, call CaCO₃ calcium carbonate? CO₂ is not carbonic acid. The school of Lavoisier and Berzelius wrote CaO.CO₂, and as they considered this to be a combination of calcium oxide with carbonic acid, there was sense in calling the compound a carbonate. If we apply this reasoning to the sulphates, &c., the incongruity

between our views respecting their constitution and our mode of designating them becomes still more striking. Which is sulphuric acid? Is it SO_3 or H_2SO_4 ? If the former, then the latter should not be called hydric, or hydrogen sulphate, but watery, or water sulphate, since the SO_3 is united to H_2O . If the second formula, in its totality, denote sulphuric acid, then how can we say that CaSO_4 is a sulphate, since H_2 , an indispensable factor in the formation of sulphuric acid, is absent in this calcium salt?

The whole of this chapter is treated in a style clear and simple. The best portion is, perhaps, that referring to the combining laws. The authors begin by giving as examples of analysis the percentage figures of the chlorides, bromides, and iodides of hydrogen, sodium, potassium, and silver, and then continue:—

"Arranged in this way we do not notice any simple relation existing between the components of this series, except that the quantity of hydrogen is always smaller than that of the chlorine, bromine, or iodine, whilst the quantity of sodium is always smaller than that of potassium, and this again is less than the quantity of silver. If, however, instead of examining a constant weight of the several compounds, we ask ourselves how much of the one constituent in each compound combines with a constant weight of that constituent which is common to several, we shall obtain at once a clear insight into the law which governs the formation of the compound. In the series of hydrogen compounds, for instance, let us calculate (by simple proportion) how much chlorine, bromine, and iodine combines with the unit weight of hydrogen. We find that we obtain for the composition of these compounds:—

Hydrogen Chloride.	Hydrogen Bromide.	Hydrogen Iodide.
Chlorine ... 35.37	Bromine ... 79.75	Iodine ... 126.53
Hydrogen ... 1.00	Hydrogen ... 1.00	Hydrogen ... 1.00
35.37	79.75	126.53

Continuing our calculation, let us next ask how much of the metals, potassium, sodium, and silver, unites with 35.37 parts by weight of chlorine to form chlorides; with 79.75 parts of bromine to form bromides, and with 126.53 parts of iodine to form iodides."

There follow then the figures of the parts of potassium, sodium, and silver which will combine with the above named weights (35.37, 79.75, 126.53) of chlorine, bromine, and iodine; and from this is drawn the conclusion, that "each of these elements combines with the others in a fixed and definite proportion by weight."

The book then proceeds to the detailed description of the non-metallic elements. The first thing that strikes the reader here is the introduction of the corrected atomic weights. It is now more than ten years since Stas published his celebrated memoir containing the revised atomic weights of several elements, yet no author has hitherto ventured to substitute them for the older numbers. It really required some moral courage to banish the charmingly simple figures 16, 14, 32, &c., of oxygen, nitrogen, sulphur, &c., and to put in their stead 15.96, 14.01, 31.98, &c.

All the compounds of carbon and nitrogen usually treated in organic chemistry are discussed in this volume, the authors reserving only the compounds of carbon and hydrogen, and their derivatives, for the department of organic chemistry, though the lower members of the marsh gas series are mentioned in this first part. The more important manufacturing processes, such as the production of sulphuric acid, of coal-gas, and others, are

described with special care, and often with much minuteness. There is, perhaps, even too much attention bestowed on these descriptions, considering that this is a work devoted to the study of scientific chemistry. The concluding chapter, on crystallography, will to many, perhaps, appear unnecessary. Certainly it ought not to form part of any book on chemistry, except as a sketch of two or three pages; nevertheless the authors have done right to give it so much prominence, for the independent study of this subject is grievously neglected in England.

The numerous woodcuts are of great excellence, and faithful copies are given of original diagrams serving to illustrate some historical experiment, such as Priestley's, to obtain and collect oxygen, or Lavoisier's, to prove that oxygen is a constituent of the atmospheric air.

GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

MR. MURRAY's list includes the following books of travel, which we have already mentioned as likely to appear soon:—*'Livingstonia: a Journal of Adventures,'* by E. D. Young, R.N., edited and revised by Mr. Horace Waller,—"The Country of the Moors," by Mr. Edward Rae,—"Pioneering in South Brazil," by Mr. T. P. Bigg Withers.

A first batch of Stanley's letters appeared in the *Daily Telegraph* of Thursday last. We shall return to this subject in our next.

The Committee of the Palestine Exploration Fund are preparing to issue a popular account of the whole survey work, which will be written for them by Lieut. Conder. This will not contain any portion of the scientific memoirs, which will be published later on with the map, but is intended to be a record of the method in which the survey was carried out, of the adventures and escapes of the expedition, and of the more generally interesting discoveries which from time to time rewarded the explorers. An important feature will be an account of the native population, peasantry, nomadic Arabs, Jews, &c., their customs, language, religion, and probable origin. Lieut. Conder also proposes to describe the great ceremonies of Easter at Jerusalem, and Christmas at Bethlehem, and to show the bearings of the collection obtained by him for the Fund of the rock measurements within the boundaries of Jerusalem on the question of the extent of the ancient city. A chapter will be devoted to Damascus, Hermon, and Baalbek. A list of all his proposed identifications, including Bethabara, Megiddo, Aenon, Tizrah, and other important places, will be given; and a final chapter will be devoted to the question of the fertility of the country and the prospects of colonization.

Mr. Baden Pritchard writes:—"Many of your readers will be glad to learn that the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have consented to the exhibition of the interesting photographs which are perhaps the most important souvenirs brought back by Sir George Nares from the Polar Regions. The series has been entrusted to the care of the Photographic Society, at whose rooms in Pall Mall the photographs are to be seen. It would be impossible to give a better idea of the magnitude of the undertaking to reach the North Pole than is conveyed by a glance at these pictures."

Dr. Schweinfurth, who has been staying at Berlin since the beginning of August, is about to return to Africa, as the cold winters of Northern Europe affect his health injuriously.

We learn from an advance sheet of the magazine published by the Bremen Geographical Society that the road through the Kara Sea, the practicability of which was first demonstrated by Prof. Nordenskjöld, who acted upon Dr. Petermann's suggestions, promises to become of some importance for opening up the interior of Siberia. The steamer *Louise* (Captain Dahl), which left Hull on the 18th of July with a cargo of iron and olive oil, reached Tobolsk on the 20th of Sep-

tember, having thus performed about 1,200 miles by sea, and a similar distance up the rivers Ob and Irtysh, in the course of sixty-five days. Another steamer, the *Frazer* (Capt. Dallmann), left Bremerhaven on the 24th of July, and arrived at the mouth of the Yenisei on the 21st of August. She started on the return voyage on the 14th of September, and reached Hammerfest after a passage of only ten days. A third vessel, the *Thames* (Capt. Wiggins), was less fortunate; for, after wintering in the Yenisei, she grounded near the mouth of the river, and has not yet been floated, although the entire cargo, including, it seems, Mr. Seaborn's natural-history collection, was thrown overboard. A fourth vessel, the *Northern Light* (Capt. Schwanenberg), was constructed on the Yenisei itself, and, though not supplied with steam power, made the passage to Vardø in twenty-six days.

The Italian travellers, Romolo Gessi and Dr. Matteucci, are at present at Naples, engaged in the preparations for their journey into Central Africa. They propose to ascend the main branch of the Sobat into Kafa, where they hope to meet with Marchese Antinori and his companions. The Italian Government, learned Societies, and the public have supplied the travellers with a liberal outfit, and we trust their success will be greater than that which has hitherto attended their fellow-countrymen who chose Zeila for a starting-point.

The last number of Guido Cora's *Cosmos* contains a full map of Assab Bay, on the Red Sea, based upon Capt. Moresby's, but substantially improved from surveys made by the officers of the Italian men-of-war *Vettor Pisani* and *Vedetta*. The territory ceded to the Italian Government—without the consent of the Khedive, be it understood, who claims the whole of that coast—is shown in red; but, to judge from the description appended to the map, it affords no advantages as a naval station, and very few as a place of trade.

SOCIETIES.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—Oct. 3.—Prof. J. O. Westwood, President, in the chair.—Mr. W. L. Distant exhibited a specimen of the ravages of *Dermestes vulpinus* in a cargo of hides recently imported from China. The hides had been found on arrival to be swarming with this insect in all stages.—Mr. McLachlan also exhibited a piece of wood riddled with borings of the larvæ, and which had formed part of a case containing hides from Shanghai.—Prof. Westwood exhibited drawings of the pupa of a species of *Phryganea*, which swam about in water like a *Notonecta*, but used its middle legs as oars.—Prof. Westwood also made remarks upon the homology of the mouth organs of the pupæ of *Trichoptera* and suggested that the mandibles are for the purpose of eating their way out of their cases.—Prof. Westwood next exhibited a small lepidopterous insect from Lake Nyassa with a pupa case of a *Tachina* which was supposed to have been bred from the cocoon. The President then referred to the lepidopterous larva attached to the homopterous larva which had been given to him by Mr. Wood-Mason at the last meeting, stating his belief that the relation of the former (*Epipyrops*) to the latter was probably that of parasitism, the lepidopterous larva feeding on the waxy secretion of the homopterous larva.—Mr. Wood-Mason stated that he was inclined to consider that the *Epipyrops* was probably a messmate of the homopteron, to which it had attached itself for the purpose of being carried about to its food-plant, and had covered itself with the waxy secretion for the sake of concealment.—Prof. Westwood next exhibited a moth from Brazil which had been bred by Mr. Bates from a caterpillar found among the hairs of some animal.—Mr. Meldola stated that the longicorn beetle from Birkenhead exhibited at the last meeting had been identified by Mr. C. Waterhouse as *Monohammus titillatus*, Fab., from the United States. Mr. Meldola exhibited a collection of *Lepidoptera* formed in 1875 in Ceylon and the Nicobar Islands.—Mr. H. Goss exhibited a series of *Lycena Arion* taken in the Cotswolds

and which were remarkable as one-third of the specimens were considerably below the average size.—Mr. McLachlan read a paper 'On *Notiothauma Reedi*, a remarkable new genus and species of Neuroptera from Chili, pertaining to the family Panorpidæ.'—Mr. A. G. Butler communicated a paper 'On the Lepidoptera of the family Lithosiidæ, in the Collection of the British Museum.'

MICROSCOPICAL.—Oct. 3.—H. C. Sorby, Esq., President, in the chair.—Numerous donations to the Society were announced and acknowledged.—A paper was read by the President, 'On an improved method for distinguishing the Axes of double-refracting Substances,' which consisted of a wedge-shaped piece of quartz cut parallel to the positive axis of the crystal, and made to slide into the eye-piece of the microscope in the same way as a micrometer. When thus passed across the field of view in polarized light every gradation of tint was successively produced by the varying thickness of the quartz, and by viewing crystals through this it was very easy at once to determine the position of their axes by noting the effect upon the series of coloured bands produced by the quartz scale.—A paper by Mr. F. H. Wenham, 'On the Aperture of Object-glasses,' was read by the Secretary, in which the errors in the usual methods of measurement were pointed out, and means for their elimination were suggested, a clear distinction being made between "angle of field" and "angle of aperture." The purport of Mr. Wenham's paper was further explained, and illustrations of the method proposed were drawn on the blackboard, by Mr. J. E. Ingpen. Further observations upon the subject were also made by Messrs. C. Brooke and H. J. Slack.—Mr. Slack described some curious observations made as to the habit and power of offensive attack by the genus *Diglena* upon *Anguillula* and other species.

Science Gossip.

MESSRS. CROSBY LOCKWOOD & Co. promise the following scientific works during the season:—'Tramways, their Construction and Working: comprising a History of the System, with an Analysis of the various Modes of Traction, a Description of the varieties of Rolling Stock, and details of Cost and Working Expenses, with special reference to the Tramways of the United Kingdom,'—'A Treatise on Slates and Slate Quarrying, Scientific, Practical, and Commercial,' by Mr. D. C. Davies, F.G.S.,—'The Construction of Roads and Streets, in two parts: 1, 'The Art of Constructing Common Roads,' by H. Law, C.E., revised by D. Kinnear Clark, C.E.; 2, 'Recent Practice in the Construction of Roads and Streets, including Pavements of Stone, Wood, and Asphalte,' by D. K. Clark, C.E.,—new editions of Youatt's 'Complete Grazier,' and Donaldson's 'Suburban Farming' brought up to the present requirements of Agricultural Practice, by Mr. Robert Scott Burn.

THE evening meetings of the West London Scientific Association and Field Club began on Tuesday, when Prof. W. Grylls Adams lectured on the Telephone. On Tuesday, Oct. 23, the President, Prof. Henslow, will lecture on 'Climbing Plants,' and Mr. H. J. Johnstone Lavis read 'Notes of a Tour in the South of France.' The papers for November and December are: Nov. 13, 'Comparative Respiration,' by Dr. E. B. Aveling; Nov. 27, 'The Age of the Hills,' by Mr. J. Logan Lobley; 'Notes on the Geology of Hunstanton,' by the Hon. Librarian; Dec. 11, 'Freshwater Polyzoa,' by Mr. W. M. Ord.

A NEW small planet was discovered by Herr Palisa, at Pola, on the 2nd inst. This will reckon as No. 175.

ANOTHER comet was discovered by Herr Tempel at Florence, also on the 2nd inst., in the constellation Aquarius. This is the fifth new comet of the year; but as D'Arrest's periodical comet was reckoned as IV., Coggia's, discovered last month, will be referred to as V., and the present comet as

Comet VI. (or f.), 1877. It is small and faint, and is moving rapidly towards the south.

THE *Companion* to the British Almanac, for 1878, will contain an article by Mr. E. W. Maunder, of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, 'On the Application of the Spectroscope to Astronomy'; also a short one by Mr. Lynn (supplementary to that of last year), 'On Planetary Research and Discovery.'

THE question asked by us in a recent number, regarding the spectrum of Daryum, has been answered by M. Kern. He publishes the following measurements for the lines of the new metal:—

Between a and B ..	24.3	32.5
" B " C ..	31.6	32.5
" C " D ..	30.6	37.3, 40.0
" D " E ..	53.0	54.5, 55.3
" E " F ..	84.0	84.8
" F " G ..	92.0	92.5, 93.3
" G " H ..	98.6, 116.0	122.0
" H " I ..	135.3, 150.0	157.0

The letters refer to Fraunhofer's lines. The spectrum was obtained from the metal itself, which was placed in powder form between the carbon points of an electric lamp.

FINE ARTS

DORE'S GREAT WORKS, 'THE BRAZEN SERPENT,' 'CHRIST LEAVING THE PRETORIUM,' and 'CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM' (the latter just completed), each 31 by 21 feet, with 'Dream of Pilate's Wife,' 'Christian Martyrs,' 'Night of the Crucifixion,' 'House of Calaphas,' &c., at the DORE GALLERY, 25, New Bond Street. Daily, Ten to Six.—1s.

THE RAVAGES OF "RESTORATION."

DURING a recent tour in several of the western counties, it chanced that circumstances brought me to the ancient borough of Evesham, where I hoped, in its twin churches, to meet with inscriptions which would be of considerable service. It is true that, as I passed through the mutilated Norman gateway from the south-east corner of the marketplace into the churchyard, and observed in the prim exterior of All Saints the handiwork of the modern "restorer," I felt some misgivings, knowing, as I do too well, the unhappy fate which, in the guise of "restoration," has overtaken more than one of our most interesting parish churches, but I little expected the disappointment which awaited me. There was once a time when the floor of this church, or such part of it as could be seen, was paved with inscribed stones; now, on entering, it presents to the antiquarian nothing, save in the chancel, but one universal expanse of concrete! Not a single stone remains, and I learned on inquiry that all of them had, during the recent "restoration," been buried eighteen inches beneath the surface, without a mark or sign of any kind to indicate their place, quantities of soil, and what else one cannot say, having been carted off from the interior during the operation. The mural monuments, fortunately, were spared; but even these have been so shifted about, to satisfy the caprice of the "restorers," as to be, in more instances than one, altogether misleading. The "tender mercies" of these gentlemen were not less conspicuously active, it seems, outside the church. Numbers of gravestones, I hear, not merely the old or illegible, but some of quite recent date, were broken up and carried away—can it be believed?—to form part of the foundation for the vicar's new house! and others, more ornamental, possibly, were placed in his garden, to create, I suppose, in an alien spot, an air of fictitious antiquity, since the true could no longer be endured. Thus was the sanctuary despoiled, and that most sacred of all spots, 'God's acre,' sacrilegiously desecrated. Was there no voice to raise a protest; no hand outstretched to stay the ruthless violence of the "restorer"? Did not even the slumbering conscience of the incumbent exclaim against such needless and profane destruction? or is it possible that he approved and directed it, and intends, if spared, to appropriate other spoils from the heritage it is his duty to protect, for the adornment of the vicarial grounds, or the erection of additional domestic offices? I ask this

question because I have been assured by those who best know that, in cases like this, it is almost invariably the clergy who are the worst offenders, and I am nearly constrained to believe it, for this is far from being, to my knowledge, a solitary instance. I could tell you of one church where the brasses were torn from the stones and roughly nailed to the walls; of another, still unfinished, where the mural monuments have been taken down, pulled to pieces, and refixed elsewhere, reduced and mutilated; of a third, even now in the agonies of "restoration," where the ancient floor-tiles have been swept away, the brasses removed, and some with so little ceremony that the stones to which they belonged were broken to pieces; where this inhumation of gravestones, in spite of remonstrance, is yet going on, and every venerable feature, short of the fabric itself, cleared out, for no other earthly reason than to spread the floor uniformly with some gaudy pattern of modern tilework. If such are to be the results of that "architectural awakening" of which we have heard so much, it were far better that we had continued to slumber on and contentedly to worship in the midst of "incongruities," rather than, for the sake of producing a spurious mediævalism, to dispossess ourselves of an inheritance which we may live to regret, but can never replace. The truth is, English churches are something more than mere places for religious worship, and deeds like these are a reproach and a disgrace to the intelligence, the benevolence, the patriotism, and even the piety of Englishmen, and only serve to show in how blind and reckless a fashion this great nation can bestow and misuse its charity. W. H. RICHARDSON.

AT Parracombe, a beautifully situated village, which many visitors to Ilfracombe must have admired, is an old church not now large enough for the neighbourhood; it is a lovely and venerable place, full of memories, and pathetic associations. In ordinary practice, the way of meeting the difficulty as to accommodation would be to "restore" the old church, to enlarge it, and thus abolish all that is beautiful and venerable, doing so at about twice the cost of a new and larger church. The people and the parson of Parracombe did nothing of the sort. They are building a new church in a site more convenient than that of the old one; they are doing all that is required to preserve the latter in its present state fit for use. On the other hand, Lythe Church, near Whitby, a dignified and interesting work of its kind, is threatened with absolute destruction. The Northern Archaeological Society and many influential residents have protested against the proposed devastation. We hope they may succeed in averting the danger.

THE "restoration" of the Church of St. Germain l'Auxerrois, originally one of the most ancient and beautiful in Paris, where, in later times, Malherbe, the engraver Warin, the painters Stella and Coypel were buried, is now complete. The "restoration" itself may, in more than one sense, be said to need to be restored, e.g., the pictures of the porch, quaint pseudo-archaisms of strange device as they were, the works of one of the ablest masters of modern France, have already peeled, faded, and crumbled from the wall.

Fine-Art Gossip.

MR. MURRAY has in the press a treatise on 'Old English Plate: Ecclesiastical, Decorative, and Domestic; its Makers and Marks in London and Provincial Cities,' by Mr. W. Cripps.

MESSRS. CROSBY LOCKWOOD & Co. announce for publication during the coming season 'The Picture Amateur's Handbook and Dictionary of Painters,' by Philippe Daryl, and 'The Silver-smith's Handbook,' by George E. Gee.

M. LEGROS has for some time made a practice, which other artists might well imitate, of presenting to the Print Room a choice impression from each of his etched plates of interest. He has lately given, besides less important works, a proof of the portrait of M. Gambetta, a profile,

nearly life size, and a very large landscape, styled 'Les Grands Arbres, Effet du Soir,' comprising two large pine-trunks rising in well-arranged lines from near the foot to the top of the plate. The dry spurs which, after the manner of pines, protrude all round in great numbers, give a peculiar character to the design. Behind are rising grounds, and a tumultuous sky, with a flood of eye-confusing lustre.

THE new catalogue, so long expected and so often promised, of the Louvre works of art, section of paintings, is advancing. The publication of the Italian portion is promised this year. This catalogue, although tolerably good, and successively enlarged to include new pictures, has long needed thorough revision in order that the results of recent knowledge might be incorporated with the text, old details corrected, as well as further information added.

WE have the painful duty of recording the death, by his own hand, of Mr. Raphael Brandon, the able and well-known architect of the Irvingite Church in Gordon Square and other noteworthy buildings. The deplorable event occurred on Monday last, at the architect's chambers, Clement's Inn. Mr. Brandon had been in a desponding state of mind for a long time, due to failing health, and, it is understood, to what he considered professional disappointment. With his younger brother, Mr. J. A. Brandon, the deceased produced many well-known and valuable works on Gothic architecture, in the practice of which both brothers have distinguished themselves. Their more important books are 'Norfolk Churches,' 'Parish Churches,' 'The Open Timber Roofs of the Middle Ages,' and 'An Analysis of Gothic Architecture,' all acceptable text-books, some of which have appeared in more than one edition.

THE Exhibition of the Photographic Society of Great Britain was opened to the public on Wednesday last, and will remain open till the 15th of next month, at the Gallery of the Society of Painters in Water Colours, Pall Mall.

IN our recent notice of portraits at Gisborne Park, the property of Lord Ribblesdale, reference was made to the artistic skill of General Lambert, one of the noblest and best abused of the Parliament's generals, and it was stated that this commander's son was a capable portrait painter. A Correspondent sends the following note of the portraits exhibited at Leeds by Lord Ribblesdale, and associated with the younger Lambert as an artist:—"No. 3089, Lister, Thomas, of Gisborne Park, by Lambert"; "No. 3090, Lister, John, of Arncliffe, b(orn) 1641, d(ied) 1774, painted by John Lambert, Esq., dated A.D. 1670." There were likewise contributed to the gathering at Leeds the following portraits:—"No. 3041, Lister, Sir Martin," belonging to Lord Ribblesdale; "No. 3086, Lambert, John Lieut.-General, son of Josias Lambert, of Calton-in-Craven, b(orn) 1619, became the celebrated Parliamentary general; banished to Guernsey, 1667; died on St. Nicholas Island, Plymouth Sound, 1682 83; belonging to M. Wilson, Esq. (? Sir Matthew Wilson, Bart., M.P.)." No. 3087, another portrait of Lambert, the property of Lord Ribblesdale.

THE German papers record the death of Herr Ferdinand Becker, the distinguished artist of Mayence, known greatly by his 'Juden im Dom,' and other works, which secured for him a high and extensive reputation at home. He was born at Gonsenheim, July 3, 1846, and entered the studio of Herr Steine in 1868, at Frankfurt. From this time he practised art with rare intelligence and assiduity, and with such success that his death awakens the regret of all who have studied the results of a comparatively brief but honourable career.

THE death of M. Bovy, engraver of medals at Geneva, probably the senior artist of his order and country, is recorded. He was in his eighty-fourth year, and began his studies under M. Pradier, brother of the famous sculptor. His works are well known to collectors; they comprise many portraits,—Napoleon I., F. Arago, Goethe, Liszt,

Chopin, Paganini, and medals of honour for the Exposition Universelle, 1855, the Battle of the Alma, and other examples of great beauty and merit.

THE models of the statue of Spinoza, which have been sent to the committee, were exhibited at the Hague on Friday and Saturday last.

HOW painful it is to trace the disappearance of that rural beauty which once marked the neighbourhood of London! Chiswick has for years back rung with clatter and hideous hammering, forging and rivetting fitter for Millwall. Another calamity impends over this place. All who are familiar with the river there know how beautiful was the mass of trees that extended on the north shore for about a quarter of a mile, huge and noble elms, lofty poplars, stately cedars. They occupied the grounds where Corney House stood, and gave its name to Corney Reach. The greater number of these trees are to be destroyed, five acres of the old pleasure having been appropriated to sewerage works. There is an end of beauty there. Artists will make no more studies of Chiswick, or of Corney, or of the Mall. Above this, the osier beds on the north shore, extending to the railway bridge at Barnes, are being embanked, and the land has been handed over to the builder. A few months since the Thames Conservancy Board destroyed a charming line of willows on the south bank of the river, at the side of the filter-beds of the West Middlesex Water Company, west of Hammersmith Bridge, thus ruining the beauty of the towing-path.

THAT vast extension of the Boulevard St. Germain, Paris, which has already absorbed in its course all one side of the long Rue St. Germain, St. Dominique, and, as we stated in May, had then reached the Rue Taranne, is now entirely open to the extremity of the latter thoroughfare, completing the new boulevard; the right side of the Rue Taranne has been "emporté par le boulevard," the left side remains intact. The demolished sides of these long streets comprised some of the most characteristic remains of Paris of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. They include a noteworthy chapel of the hospital of the Saints-Pères, belonging of yore to the famous hospital La Charité. Numerous old mansions that were once stately and reserved, for they mostly stood "by themselves," have been gutted, and some curious arrangements have been brought to the notice of those who, like ourselves, loitered to see the old mansards, dormers, chimneys, once lordly staircases, and lofty chambers dismantled and wreathed in clouds of arid dust. Some buildings of the Rue Taranne,—the place had its name from M.M. Jean and Christophe de Taranne,—dated with their gardens, long since built on, from the fifteenth century. In the Rue Taranne, the excavators at work discovered vast quantities of human bones. They had, in fact, come upon the Cimetière St. Benoit, which was closed in 1812, having been in use doubtless from a very remote period. It was contemporaneous, probably, in its origin with the neighbouring church of St. Benoit. Human remains have been discovered here from time to time since 1812. In this cemetery were buried Claude and Charles Perrault, and René Chopin, who died 1606.

TWENTY-FIVE pictures have been added to the gallery at the Hague, brought forth, as we understand, from the magazine of the establishment; the works comprise examples which bear the names of Titian ('Portrait of a Young Lady,' with light hair), Caravaggio ('St. Sebastian'), F. Floris, J. Frank ('The Studio of Apelles'), Van Dyck ('Portrait'), D. Stoop, P. Moreelse, Mytens, J. Van Huysum, G. Honthorst, Van Veen, Il Bourguignon, and others.

desires to take or to have accorded to him by the issue of these three specimens of his publications. Reading the Prefaces, and judging the productions by what is there stated, it might be believed, even though the scheme is expressed in loose and obscure English, that the series were undertaken wholly and solely in order to restore to purity the text of favourite musical works corrupted through the course of time. Reading the music itself, a different opinion will be formed, for the pieces selected to commence the three sections or series have been transmitted to posterity in the state in which they were left by their respective composers. Thus Allegri's 'Miserere,' representing the Ecclesiastical Series, Dowland's "Awake, sweet love," in the Secular Series, can be obtained in the actual state as issued and approved by the several authors in their own times. The third, Luther's hymn, "Ein feste Burg," as a specimen of the Hymnal Series, can be found in almost its primitive condition, at all events sufficiently grammatical in form to render such perversions as that now under notice as superfluous as they are impertinent. The assertion that the whole of these pieces have been reharmonized "in Strictly Lawful and Natural progression" is comparatively untruthful. Comparatively because the "reharmonizer" may be labouring under the impression that his awkward and forced progressions are natural to him, and, therefore, commonly natural. In this he is singular, for the majority of musicians hold different views on the subject of natural progressions in harmony. They would not permit the use of such clumsy consecutives as those which appear in the thirteenth and twentieth bars, on pages 10 and 11 of Dowland's madrigal, to say nothing of numerous other ugly progressions wrongly called natural; they would not allow chords foreign to the key to be employed as natural harmonies; they would not commit so many unnecessary violations of grammar in the display of "truthful and natural science in music." Dismissing at once the question of science, whether natural or other, the term or title of which can only be allowed to apply to music by the merest courtesy, the question of the truthful now presents itself in another phase besides that connected with the music. The utter nonsense printed as commentaries upon the several works issued in this series may be pardoned as the lamentations of one who sees danger in the insignificant, and as the eccentricities of one without knowledge or purpose, but who can command the assistance of printer's ink. But where it is easy to become perfectly informed on the subjects set forth in those prefaces or comments it is needless to make misstatements, especially in a publication designed for the diffusion of the truthful. The 'Miserere' of Allegri did not produce disappointment in the Austrian court when performed, a German choir is not "naturally coarse." The voice of Luther is not exemplified in his psalm, "Ein feste Burg," for it is doubtful whether he wrote it; at all events it is known that John Dowland did not write the Old Hundredth, for all that the publisher of the "truthful and natural" may assert. The meaning or the object in sending forth these publications is yet to be found, for it is reasonable and charitable to assume that there is some meaning or intention in the venture. It is possible to apply one of the paragraphs of the Preface to the so-called Hymn of Luther to this case, and it may be said that "this is the fruit of trafficking in trade publications by men who are too ignorant to understand the enormity of their offence."

The Parochial Psalter, by Alexander S. Cooper (Weekes & Co.), is a praiseworthy attempt to provide a system of pointing the Canticles and Psalms of David for the purpose of facilitating chanting. The author calls his method "new and simple," and such he may honestly believe it to be. It is, however, neither new in its plan, nor would it prove simple in practice. The mixture of the syllabic and the polysyllabic divisions of the words in singing is the characteristic of one of the earliest books published on the subject—'The Psalter,' by

MUSIC

MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

It is not easy to understand the position that the publisher or projector of the *Series for the Diffusion of Truthful and Natural Science in Music* (Office, 28, Paternoster Square, E.C.)

Robert Janes, organist of Ely Cathedral. Neither at that period, nor at the time when Dr. Stephen Elvey produced his book was the attempt made to convert the methods of chanting into a science, nor were the several systems distinguished by direct titles. The thought that the practice of chanting could be reduced to a system probably never occurred to either of these worthy men. The desire to adapt the English words according to their rhetorical accent, so as to make them available for singing, was the first, the polysyllabic plan; the arrangement of words to the Gregorian chants, gave rise to the second or syllabic system. A greater difference of opinion existed as to the value of the employment of the Gregorian "tones" in the Church than of the effect of the plan of assigning one syllable to each note of the *inflection*; the principle suggested was carried out by a special section of Churchmen even when Anglican chants were employed. Once pledged to this plan, the accentuation of the words was perverted often to a ridiculous extent. The language might suffer so long as the main principle laid down was observed. On the other side, the representatives of a different phase of ecclesiastical thought accepted a design in which the words were literally lumped together without any attempt at securing evenness in singing,—one set of "pointers" dividing the word "righteousness" into three distinct syllables, with a musical note to each, the other assigning only a single note to the whole word. Each side claimed special advantages for its system. The one declared that smooth chanting was obtained by the division of all words into single syllables, with an accent to each, according to the rhythm of the melody, even though such accents were different to those ordinarily employed in speech. The other asserted that, although their plan, if badly carried out, produced at times an unseemly gabble, yet no violence was done to the pronunciation of the words. Neither plan became general, yet each has been considerably drawn upon in the construction of subsequent pointed psalters. The existence of a variety of works upon the subject arises from the practice of chanting during service having now grown common. The custom of chanting the Psalms was confined to a few choirs until recently. No book on the subject of pointing existed forty years ago, each cathedral or collegiate choir—the only places where choral service was preserved and constantly celebrated—having its own traditional and unwritten method, modified from time to time as necessity arose. Every modern choirmaster finds at the present time the like difficulty which beset choirmasters of all periods also in his path; and, having the skill or the will to set to work to make the changes and alterations occasionally necessary, having, probably, also a choir ready to carry out his views, when, by practice of a defined plan, the chanting runs smoothly, he believes that he has discovered the best available system of pointing the Psalter, and gives it to the world accordingly. This seems to have been done in the present case with, it must be admitted, a greater measure of success than is usually found in works of the kind. The compiler, however, has a partiality for placing the resting-point for [the voice on final syllables, often to the perversion of the accent, for it would be impossible to hold a syllable "a little longer," even if it be not sung louder, without altering the rhetorical emphasis. The hints given for obtaining due expression in singing the several verses are useful, and the several other directions concerning the singing commend the book to those who desire such hints, but, as a final pointed Psalter, the book cannot be accepted without reserve. A perfect system of pointing can never be obtained until the verses and the sentences of the Psalter are reconstructed according to the spirit of the words and the sense of the sentences. Mr. Cooper adopts loyally the existing division, and, although he has produced a work commendable on the whole, it is at the best only not so bad as many other "pointed Psalters."

Count Beust in his composition, *The Return from India Valse* (Stanley Lucas, Weber & Co.),

has displayed a considerable amount of musician-like power worthy of a more ambitious production than a simple Valse. The introduction is well written, and, with the Valse which follows, should secure the attention of all who seek the means for the exhibition of effective playing. We learn from the title-page that the profits are to be given to the Hungarian Association for the relief of necessitous Austrians and Hungarians in London. For this reason, it ought to secure what its musical merits deserve, a large sale.

The part-song for four voices, *Come Away to the Woods*, of which Mr. Gabriel Davis is the author (words and music), and Novello & Co. the publishers, is an excellent piece of unpretentious writing, spirited and vocal, and well calculated to be effective.

I Arise from Dreams of Thee, words by P. B. Shelley; *A New Year's Burden*, words by Dante G. Rossetti; *Sweet and Low*, words by Alfred Tennyson. The music composed by Florence A. Marshall (Novello & Co.). Three artist-songs, that is to say, compositions in which the earnest desire of the composer seems to have been to endeavour to fathom the depth of meaning in the words, and to reproduce as far as possible the spirit which called them forth. The like earnestness of purpose, and refinement of feeling distinguish each song. The accompaniments are beautiful and musicianlike, and demand as much skill on the part of the executant as that required of the singer.

Of a totally different character are the two songs, *Before the Storm* and *Maiden May*, by Alfred Scott Gatty (Enoch & Sons). The melodies are trite and commonplace, and the harmonies and accompaniments constructed upon a "rule of thumb," rather than upon any scientific or artistic principle. There is an air of pretension about these compositions which is by no means pleasing to observe, as its existence implies a certain amount of complacent satisfaction in the mind of the writer, that he, being the author of something which the public has accepted, is in a position to command a reception from the public of everything of which he is the author.

The same publishers also send three songs by Julia Woolf, namely, *Little Nannie*, *The Trooper's Dream*, and *My Star*, songs of the usual order of rhythmical phrases which suggest their own sequence. They are, therefore, such songs as amateurs delight in, as being easy to sing and little trouble to remember, and none at all to write. The words contain the ordinary rhymes and customary images well worn by use since such ballad-writing became a trade. Affectation of pathos, rather than pathos itself, confusion of similes, and illogical deductions are the characteristics which mark most of the words furnished for music. It is, therefore, matter for little surprise to find them in these three or any other songs designed to reach the popular mind.

There is altogether a better spirit in M. Victor Capoul's *Chanson Hongroise "Méha"*, for the words and music are agreeable and at unity one with the other. The like concord cannot be traced in the poor effusion called *My Ship Comes In*, by H. Millard, for the words are weak and puerile, and the music feeble, ill constructed, and wanting in originality. The combined powers of words and music, therefore, show that unity is not always strength. Among the pianoforte pieces the simplified arrangement of the *scherso* from the fourth Concerto, by H. Litoff, is worthy of all praise for its excellent melody and brilliant style. The *Danse Rustique*, by W. E. Frost, is a lively piece of writing, not without a certain sense of humour in its melody and treatment, fitting to its title and presumed character. The *Carnival Galop*, by G. F. O. Foster, is lively and rhythmical as a galop should be whether at Carnival or any other time. The publication of the *Nuits Blanches*, by Stephen Heller, in the cheap and yet elegant form as one of the Litoff series of publications, will be gladly welcomed by the admirers of graceful and fascinating pianoforte music. For purposes of teaching they will be found especially valuable, as

the fingering has really been most carefully marked, so that the phrasing of the passages is perfectly intelligible. It is unnecessary to say anything in favour of these pieces as compositions, for they are already well known, and admired where known. It will be enough to recommend the present edition to the attention of those who desire to possess copies. Of a totally different character, though no less valuable as pianoforte music, is the collection of fifteen pieces in a similar form to make what is called a *Rubinstein Album*. Many of these *morceaux* were played by the composer himself at his recent recitals in London and the provinces with great success. But while few will be at the trouble to buy and study these, in the hope of outrivalling the great pianist in his performance, there are many who will be glad to become acquainted with them as pleasing and original specimens of the musical genius of an accomplished executant.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE CONCERTS.

THE Crystal Palace Saturday Concerts were resumed on the 6th inst., on which occasion were presented several features of interest, works by Weber, Schumann, Benedict, Wagner, Beethoven, Chopin, Kirchner, Sullivan, and Auber forming the programme. Madame Arabella Goddard appeared as solo pianist, and Madame Sophie Löwe and Mr. George Fox as vocalists, together with the Crystal Palace Choir. In the performance of the Symphony, the Overtures, the Concerto, and other pieces, the orchestra exhibited its accustomed excellence, and bore witness to the unremitting labour of conductor and performers.

The first item of the concert, Weber's magnificent Overture to 'Oberon,' was given with the utmost precision and animation, while the introduction was marked by a careful rendering of the *pianissimo* passages. A hearty welcome was accorded to Madame Arabella Goddard as she stepped on the platform, and she soon showed herself deserving of the applause showered upon her, for the manner in which she attacked the Concerto proved her to be in full possession of all those high qualities for which she is renowned. The noble Concerto of Sir Julius Benedict abounds in difficulties, but these were overcome with an ease that charmed the audience, which was enraptured by the grace, delicacy, and fire of its interpretation. Written expressly for Madame Arabella Goddard, the Concerto is one of the composer's happiest inspirations, the solo passages are of great beauty and fitness, while the *tutti* constantly unfold the skill of the practised master.

The orchestra distinguished itself in a splendid rendering of Beethoven's First Symphony, all its lovely themes being revealed with conspicuous care, as also in the performance of that wonderful effort of the veteran Auber, the Overture to 'Le Premier Jour de Bonheur,' a work reflecting the utmost freshness of youth. The vocal music consisted of Senta's ballad from 'Der Fliegende Holländer,' and songs by Chopin and Kirchner, sung with much intelligence by Madame Sophie Löwe, and a part-song, 'Gipsy Life,' by Schumann, sung by the choir, and accompanied with orchestra.

It remains but to notice the incidental music to 'Henry the Eighth,' by Mr. Arthur Sullivan, which consists of an 'Introduction in March Time,' a 'Song and Chorus,' 'Graceful Dance,' and 'Slow Water Music.' All these movements are characterized by much skill in the instrumentation. The song, 'Youth will needs have dalliance,' well rendered by Mr. George Fox, with its burden sung by the chorus, is of the old English character, and from its quaint expression and popular form it received, as it merited, a hearty encore.

FUNERAL OF M^{RS}. TIEFENS.

On Monday was gathered, round a grave prematurely opened, a vast multitude to bid a last farewell to our eminent *prima donna*, who for more than eighteen years had been so intimately associated with the annals of the lyric drama and

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sacred music in this country: Theresa Tietjens, the illustrious artist whose talents secured the admiration of all lovers of art, and whose gentle and kind nature was ever ready to assist the needy, is at rest. Victim of a long and severe disease, which baffled the skill and solicitude of those whose task it was to preserve so precious a life, she leaves a host of friends and admirers to bewail a loss that can hardly be repaired. Born in a country at all times fertile of genius in every art that tends to ennoble human nature, she possessed every gift needed to constitute the great and distinguished artist. With profound and sincere affliction we mourn her loss, but let us console ourselves with the reflection that as long as there are hearts to feel the sublime and sweet emotions which Art produces, so long will be cherished the dear remembrance of Theresa Tietjens.

DRAMA

THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. B. Chatterton. — On Monday and during the week, at 7, 'SARAH'S YOUNG MAN'; at 8, 'ENGLAND in the DAYS of CHARLES II.' Messrs. S. Emery, J. Fernandez, W. Terriss, E. F. Edgar Pennington, A. Glover, H. Colliard, &c.; Mesdames Leighton, Gertrude Dore, A. Murray, D'Arcy, and Willes. At 10.15, 'THE CONSCRIPTION.' Messrs. G. Lauri and F. Sims, Miss Kate Hamilton, &c.—Prices from 6d. to 5s. Box-Office open from Ten till Five daily.

THE WEEK.

HAYMARKET.—'Engaged,' a Farce Comedy, in Three Acts. By W. S. Gilbert.
GOSWOLD.—'The House of Darnley,' an Original Comedy in Five Acts. Left incomplete by the late Lord Lytton, and supplied with a Fifth Act by Charles Coghlan.
PRINCE OF WALES'S.—'To Parents and Guardians,' a Comic Drama, in One Act. By Tom Taylor.

IN his new comedy of 'Engaged,' Mr. Gilbert is on familiar ground. Though no fairy influence or agency surrounds his characters or prompts their actions, the world in which they move is a region of pure fantasy. The idea on which the superstructure rests is kindred to that which forms the basis of the 'Palace of Truth.' Each of the various personages he presents is compelled by some mysterious agency to reveal whatever is base in his nature. That species of mental reserve which underlies and qualifies our actions is here brought forward, and our deeds are read by the light of our unconscious avowals. As no one is shocked by the display of folly or meanness on the part of others, and as all seem to pride themselves on their candour, and to anticipate a favourable construction for their actions, the world, though nominally the Scottish border in the first act, and London in the two acts which follow, is, in fact, fairyland. Mr. Gilbert's satire is strong and trenchant. Its obvious butt is less the intrinsic baseness of human nature than the falsehood of our social pretences. The one, in truth, includes the other. None except beings influenced by poor and pitiful motives would seek to present themselves to the world as other than they are, and the prolonged existence of social shams affords proof how weak is the society in which they pass current. It is principally by implication, however, that Mr. Gilbert attacks human nature in general. What he seeks to do is to supply the kind of reserve we unconsciously place upon our gifts. A man offers a distressed and defenceless woman his assistance. He does not, however, mean in so doing to be out of pocket by his chivalry. Mr. Gilbert makes him speak his full thought. "Count upon any assistance, madam, short of pecuniary aid, that I am able to offer." The woman proclaims the passion she feels for her lover, and will be his through time and eternity, if he will give her the home and the comforts she regards as indispensable to her position. With equal frankness every character un-

burdens his mind, the result being to afford a picture of humanity more cynical than has been seen since the days of Swift.

It might almost be said, borrowing an illustration from Coleridge, that Mr. Gilbert is the soul of Aristophanes *habitans in sicco*. He is as remorseless as the Greek satirist in the application to our sham virtues of the tests which separate the component parts and precipitate the hidden vice. He has, however, no purpose beyond provoking our laughter. That there is no such political significance in the satire as animates the defender of the Athenian republic may be attributed, in part, to changed conditions. There appears, however, to be in Mr. Gilbert no moral aim whatever. The lesson, if any, to be extracted from his plays is, that our nature is too pitiful to be redeemed, and that it is mere waste of time to sow the seed of virtue or improvement in a soil unfitted to receive it. In this respect he is less like Aristophanes than Swift. These things are not mentioned in condemnation of Mr. Gilbert or of his method, but in simple explanation. It is, of course, impossible, in dealing with characters every one of whom is despicable, to count on the slightest manifestation of sympathy from the audience. The experiment has rarely, if ever before, been made of supplying a drama in three acts in which there is not a single human being who does not proclaim himself absolutely detestable. In the present instance it has been made, and it is a success. So witty is the treatment that the piece, to those who are prepared to accept the author's standpoint, is one of the most mirthful and original that has, during late years, been seen on the stage. In using the term "original" we may make a slight exception: Mr. Gilbert has stolen from no one except himself. In the character of Azéma in 'The Palace of Truth' he has worked to a certain extent the vein he now again explores.

In his exponents he has been fairly happy. Mr. Honey, who plays the hero, is unsuited to the part. Miss Marion Terry's acting is, however, in its unconsciousness, the perfection of burlesque, and Miss Buckstone, Miss Julia Stewart, Mr. Howe, Mr. Dewar, and Mr. Kyrle realize fully the characters assigned them.

According to a rumour, the source of which we are unable to trace, the new play of Lord Lytton, which was produced on Saturday last, belongs, in the order of its composition, to a period between the production of 'Money' and that of 'Not so Bad as We Seem.' Four acts were finished, and then the author, unable, we may assume, to extricate his characters satisfactorily from the position in which they were placed, or not quite satisfied with the progress of the work so far as it had proceeded, laid it on one side, never to recommence it. A fifth act has now been supplied by Mr. Charles Coghlan, and the play has been produced with success at the Court. It is worthy of its author's reputation, and bears strong traces of his facile style of workmanship. The characters are familiar types, with that slight infusion of caricature which in comedy seems an advantage. They are thoroughly conventional, and yet highly effective. The dialogue is cynical and clever, but artificial, and the story is ingenious in construction without being original. As its faults are of a class that only interfere with its literary value, 'The

House of Darnley' is a distinct success, and will probably retain its place as an acting play. The story is that of a wife whose husband, wholly occupied in the task of making a fortune of most bubble-like brilliancy and frailty, leaves her to herself, and so exposes her to the wooing of a too gallant and amorous cousin. Though innocent enough to compromise herself without knowing what she is doing, Lady Juliet Darnley is fond of her husband and child, and proof against the specious arguments of the would-be Lothario. It needs, accordingly, the intrusion of jealousy to bring matters to a crisis. Mortified at the contempt with which he has been treated by Darnley, who has been content by means of an apologue to show his wife the true character of her cousin, and has then left them together, Sir Francis Marsden tells Lady Juliet that the secret of her husband's *aplomb* is indifference, and gives her an address at which he tells her she will find his mistress. Her inquiries convince her that the accusation is well founded, and, after quitting her husband's roof for that of her father, the heroine seems rather disposed to avail herself of the form of revenge suggested to her by her cousin. Her lover is seen by Darnley at her feet, and the reconciliation, which has, of course, been inevitable from the first, is delayed. It comes when the wife finds that Darnley has been occupied in a task of mercy instead of an intrigue. An underplot, with even less originality than the main story, is connected with it. In this a young lady, compelled by her father's will to marry a man she dislikes or, by her refusal, to forfeit her fortune, tries through five acts to disgust him and make him accept a responsibility of breaking the engagement from which she shrinks. In pursuit of this object she appears in turn as a precisian and a hoyden.

Rather roughly fitted to the original is the head or the tail Mr. Coghlan has supplied. How careless is the workmanship, and how the action is arrested rather than completed, is clearly shown in the conduct of this underplot. Mr. Coghlan found to his hand a too persevering suitor, whose reluctance to marry a girl wholly unsuited to his tastes, manifested through four acts, has always yielded to his interest and his indisposition to sacrifice a large sum of money dependent on his marriage. The way he has treated him has been to make him change his mind. Nothing, surely, could be more simple. He has, moreover, brought him nearer to the lady by putting into his mouth slang expressions, of which the man as conceived by Lord Lytton was wholly incapable. The manner of declining the honour of an alliance with Miss Placid consists in the utterance of the phrase, "Not if I know it." Here is a complete shirking of the responsibility of the work Mr. Coghlan has undertaken and an abandonment of the author's conception. Not much more successfully is the main action finished. The task undertaken, however, by Mr. Coghlan is, it must be confessed, one of extreme difficulty.

To deal with the play as a whole, its chief fault is want of originality. When she tries to disgust her suitor, Miss Placid indulges in a rhapsody upon hunting which has been twice anticipated, first in the 'Love Chase' and again in 'London Assurance.' The scene in which the husband holds up the lover to scorn

and then leaves him with his wife, has been given in 'Love in a Maze,' and the whole situation between *le mari, la femme, et l'amant* is as familiar as it can be.

Some of the characters are well-known stage types. The rich and energetic banker who is always on the verge of bankruptcy, and who, by writing a few letters, gets money enough to uphold the fortunes of a sinking house, puts in a constant appearance on the stage. Sir Francis is a commonplace seducer, and the woman to whom is due complete revelation of his baseness is an equally commonplace victim. Fyshe, a cold-blooded character, does not differ greatly from Dudley Smooth; and Mainwaring, a species of chorist to the action, is an English equivalent to Desgenais, in 'Les Filles de Marbre.' With all its faults on its head, 'The House of Darnley' is an effective comedy, and is a good specimen of Lord Lytton's powers. It is mounted as few pieces have ever been mounted, and is acted in capital style, so far as the chief characters are concerned, and with much *ensemble*. Miss Ellen Terry presented gracefully the heroine, and was supremely touching in the stronger scenes. Mr. Kelly displayed as the hero more power than he has previously exhibited. Mr. Hare and Mr. Bishop, with other members of the company, were good in various types of eccentricity, and the performance was creditable to all concerned. The play can scarcely fail to prove an enduring success.

Mr. Taylor's one-act comedy, 'To Parents and Guardians,' has been produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, for the purpose of affording Mr. Arthur Cecil an opportunity of appearing as Tourbillon, the French usher. In this part Mr. Cecil is seen to advantage, his interpretation being thoroughly pathetic.

Dramatic Gossip.

The new series of dramatic performances, under the management of Mr. Charles Wyndham, to be given at the Crystal Palace, will include Selby's version of 'Robert Macaire,' 'The Courier of Lyons,' 'Liz,' by Messrs. Hatton and Matthison, 'All that Glitters is not Gold,' by the Mortons, and Mr. Taylor's 'Serf' and 'Still Waters Run Deep.'

'QUEEN OF AN HOUR' is the title of an historical drama, on the subject of Lady Jane Grey, which has been produced at the Standard. It takes some striking liberties with history, presenting Edward the Sixth as the victim of a murder.

MISS NEILSON has appeared as Viola in the 'Twelfth Night' in Manchester, and subsequently in Birmingham.

A THREE-ACT comedy of MM. Barrière and V. Bernard, with the title of 'Les Demoiselles de Montformel,' has been produced at the Palais Royal, where it is given by MM. Geoffroy, L'héritier, and Hyacinthe, and Madame Magnier. It is very droll and a trifle indecorous, the pen of the veteran author of 'Les Filles de Marbre' lending itself as readily as that of younger dramatists to the class of comedy that has lately sprung into vogue at the smaller French theatres.

A ONE-ACT comedietta, by Mr. A. F. Pinero, entitled '2001, A Year,' has been produced at the Globe. This little piece, which teaches a lesson exactly contrary to the 'Taming of the Shrew,' shows the conquest by marital kindness of feminine ferocity. It is competently interpreted by Miss Compton and Mr. Macklin.

TO CORRESPONDENTS—J. G.—A. P.—W. G. E.—J. D. W.—T. P.—received.
R. A. C.—Forwarded to Mr. P.
C. H.—We cannot answer such questions.

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